Program explores ways for islands to transition to renewables. PAGE 2
10 lawmakers attend 5-day APIL 40th Assembly in Chuuk. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

Volume XXXIII, Issue No. 208
THURSDAY OCTOBER 19, 2023
www.saipantribune.com
www.facebook.com/saipantribune

$1

HANMI is grappling with 'historically low' occupancy

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Hotel Association of the NMI fears that absent the China market, the CNMI hotel industry will continue to grapple with historically low and unsustainable occupancy rates. Current hotel occupancy rate in the CNMI is at around 23%, the lowest it has been pre-pandemic.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To shed light on its dire situation, the Hotel Association of the NMI has told U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg that the CNMI's hotel industry is grappling with historically low and unsustainable occupancy rates, hence its request to exempt the CNMI from the federal cap on the number of China flights to the United States.

In a letter addressed to Buttigieg, acting HANMI chair Dennis Seo said

See HANMI on Page 4

No cut hours for LB employees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Legislative Bureau employees' work schedule will "technically" not be cut as they will still receive 80 hours per pay period, according to Legislative Bureau director Perry John P. Tenorio yesterday.

Personnel hours under the general fund were indeed cut by 10 hours per pay period for all Legislative Bureau staff, Tenorio said, but the bureau will be using American Rescue Plan Act funds to make up for the difference, thereby making their 80-hour workweek possible.

See HOURS on Page 4

Tenorio

1 of 3 allegedly involved in San Antonio robbery ID'd

DPS

Repeat offender Juanita Villagomez remains at large following her alleged involvement in a gunpoint robbery in San Antonio last Sunday. Department of Public Safety is asking the community's help in locating her as there is an active arrest warrant out against her.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety has identified one of the three suspects accused of robbing a man at gunpoint last Sunday at the San Antonio beach behind the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School.

According to DPS assistant chief of

See ROBBERY on Page 4

How int'l law applies to war, and why Hamas, Israel alleged to have broken it

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP)—Hamas and Israel have both been accused of breaking international law during their latest conflict, and the United Nations says it is collecting evidence of war crimes by all sides.

Enforcing the law amid the fog of war is difficult. Holding

See WAR on Page 4

AP

A house damaged by Hamas militants in Kibbutz Be'eri, Israel, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023. The kibbutz was overrun by Hamas militants from the nearby Gaza Strip on Cot.7, when they killed and captured many Israelis.

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Chinese President Xi Jinping promised greater access to China's market for international firms and new financing exceeding $100 billion.
PAGE 11

WORLD
A massive blast rocked a Gaza City hospital packed with wounded and other Palestinians seeking shelter Tuesday.
PAGE 13

LIFE & STYLE
Jada Pinkett Smith no longer hiding that she's been separated from megastar husband Will Smith for seven years.
PAGE 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Program explores ways for islands to transition to renewables

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Manny Gregory T. Castro (Ind-Saipan) is attending a nine-day Blue Planet Alliance's inaugural Followship Program that kicked off last Oct. 14 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The Fellowship Program is offered to island leaders around the globe who are looking to transition their islands away from fossil fuels and toward a renewable energy future.

Castro, who is chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Public Utilities and Communications Committee, cited the importance of the Fellowship Program in his off-island notice to House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and SNILD chair Rep. John Paul P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

The lawmaker asked to be excused from session from Oct. 14 to 24, 2023.

During the program, Castro will hear from policy experts, utility executives, community organizers, climate-solution advocates, and many more leaders with extensive knowledge of why renewable energy is the answer—and how to do it together.

The lawmaker was able to meet with representatives from the Blue Planet Alliance during the U.S. Department of Interior's Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop in May 2023.

Last July 26, Castro was invited as a representative of the CNMI to participate in Blue Planet's inaugural Fellowship Program.

In 2015, Hawaii became the first U.S. state to legislatively mandate a transition to 100% renewable energy by 2045. Castro said this landmark legislation inspired other jurisdictions throughout the country to set similar ambitious climate goals.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rep. Manny Gregory T. Castro (Ind-Saipan), second from left, poses for a group photo with, from left, Blue Planet Alliance founder Henk Rogers, Guam Power Authority assistant general manager John Cruz, American Samoa Power Authority Senior Renewable Energy Team's Jerome Ierome, and Pohnpei State Legislature legal counsel Thomas Beckman during a break Monday, Hawaii time, in the ongoing Blue Planet Alliance's inaugural Fellowship Program at the East West Center UH Manoa in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Today, more than 20 U.S. states and jurisdictions have followed Hawaii's lead and targets a transition to 100% renewable energy.

For Hawaii, Castro said, there were myriad considerations for the switch. "Of course, there were existential reasons: experts have noted that dirty energy can cause irreversible environment damage that would be devastating to Hawaii's future." However, Castro said, there were also economic reasons: the state was spending $6 billion a year importing gas and coal. With the new plan, the state will save billions and keep that money invested in the local economy, he added.

The lawmaker said Hawaii is not markedly different from the CNMI and other islands in these regards.

He said the objective of this Fellowship Program is to share all the knowledge they have gained, all the lessons they have learned, and together explore opportunities for the CNMI to similarly transition to a 100% renewable energy future.

"If the technology is there to harness geothermal energy in our Northern Islands and convert it to containerized hydrogen, we would then be able to export it to various places in Asia," said Castro, adding this will effectively reduce the CNMI's dependence on the importation of fossil fuels, and increase its Gross Domestic Product.

He said this will bring much needed economic, environmental and workforce development opportunities to the people of the CNMI.

GCC Global Cardboard Challenge on Oct. 28

Guam Community College's Education Department will host the 10th Annual Global Cardboard Challenge on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 9am to 3pm in the Multipurpose Auditorium (Building 300).

GCC's Global Cardboard Challenge has always been a community favorite event that showcases the creativity of children of all ages. The Challenge engages them to create by using resources available to them and bringing their imagination to life. It's not too late for children to make a cardboard creation for the event!

The media and the general public are invited to GCC to take a look at what our island children created. The event is a worldwide celebration of child creativity. For more information on the challenge go to www.cardboardchallenge.com. ***(GCC)***

10 lawmakers attend 5-day APIL 40th Assembly in Chuuk

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ten lawmakers led by House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) are currently attending a five-day Association of Pacific Island Legislatures 40th General Assembly in Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia.

Villagomez is the vice president of APIL, which is a regional group composed of Pacific lawmakers from 12 governments. The association meets regularly to address diverse regional issues.

During the House's session last week, Rep. Blas Jonathan T. Attao (Ind-Saipan) congratulated Villagomez for securing his position at APIL, saying the House speaker would be bringing a delegation to the APIL Assembly to bring their concerns to the table with their APIL brothers and sisters in the Blue Continent and share some solutions.

"I'm sure that we face the same issues with our brothers and sisters in the region and it'd be very important that we bring up the issues that we face here in the CNMI," he said.

The 12 APIL members are the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, FSM State of Chuuk, FSM State of Kosrae, FSM State of Pohnpei, FSM State of Yap, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru, Republic of Palau, and State of Hawaii.

Rep. Denita K. Yangetmai, (D-Saipan), who is a member of APIL's board of directors, is also in the CNMI delegation.

The other lawmakers in the delegation are Rep. Ralph N. Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Marissa Renee Flores (Ind-Saipan), Rep. John Paul P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Diego Vincent Fejeran Camacho (D-Saipan), Rep. Malcolm Jason Omar (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Vincent S. Aldan (Ind-Saipan), Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Sen. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan).

Senate legal counsel Joe Bermudes and House legal counsel Joseph Taijeron, along with two legislative assistants, will also join the Assembly.

Saipan Tribune learned that most of the delegation members left Saipan Sunday, while Sablan and Omar left the island Tuesday. They will all leave Chuuk this Saturday and be back in the CNMI this Sunday.

This year's APIL Assembly's theme is "Regional Security and Climate Change: Strengthening Pacific Security and Livelihood."

According to the Assembly's agenda, the welcome reception hosted by the Chuuk State Legislature was held at the Blue Lagoon Resort last Tuesday night.

U.S. Rear Admiral Gregory C. Huffman, who is commander of Joint Region Marianas, was among the presenters yesterday and his topic was about "Strengthening Pacific Security."

This Friday morning, there will be a boat cruise in the Chuuk Lagoon. The Assembly's farewell reception and gift presentations will be held at the Rachel's Beach Friday night.

For APIL Community Service Project, they will be picking up trash around Downtown Weno this Saturday at 8am.

Last year's APIL Assembly was held in October in Pohnpei.

GET A CHANCE TO WIN UP TO
$2,000!
IN OUR MONEY MACHINE
GET 30 SECONDS IN OUR MONEY MACHINE, GRAB AS MUCH AS YOU CAN
WE WILL DOUBLE IT!
QUALITY USED CARS

2016 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE STK: 22M209A
SALE PRICE $11,995 | $87 PER PAYCHECK

2015 HYUNDAI GENESIS STK: 22M075A
SALE PRICE $14,995 | $186 PER PAYCHECK

2017 MAZDA MX-5 STK: 16P424A
SALE PRICE $21,995 | $158 PER PAYCHECK

DOUBLE THE THRILL THE CASH THE SAVINGS

2015 MAZDA3 i SPORT STK: 22H127B
SALE PRICE $10,995 $136 PER PAYCHECK

2004 NISSAN TITAN SE STK: 23D024C
SALE PRICE $14,995 $189 PER PAYCHECK

2020 HYUNDAI ELANTRA SE STK: 23HS031
SALE PRICE $16,995 $134 PER PAYCHECK

2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA STK: 16P433
SALE PRICE $13,995 $101 PER PAYCHECK

2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON STK: 14P396A
SALE PRICE $14,995 $109 PER PAYCHECK

2017 TOYOTA RAV4 LE SPORT STK: 21D106A
SALE PRICE $18,995 $153 PER PAYCHECK

2020 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE G4 STK: 23M017A
SALE PRICE $14,995 $119 PER PAYCHECK

2018 KIA FORTE5 LX FWD STK: 19HS1006A
SALE PRICE $14,995 $109 PER PAYCHECK

2018 TOYOTA RAV4 STK: 18P416
SALE PRICE $18,995 $151 PER PAYCHECK

2016 KIA SPORTAGE STK: 22M240A
SALE PRICE $13,995 $101 PER PAYCHECK

2018 MAZDA3 STK: 18HS994
SALE PRICE $14,995 $109 PER PAYCHECK

2019 HYUNDAI TUCSON SE STK: 18P500A
SALE PRICE $19,995 $160 PER PAYCHECK

2019 MAZDA3 STK: 23HS038
SALE PRICE $14,995 $120 PER PAYCHECK

2020 HYUNDAI VELOSTER STK: 20R263
SALE PRICE $14,995 $119 PER PAYCHECK

2013 NISSAN 370Z STK: 22M215A
SALE PRICE $23,995 $199 PER PAYCHECK

Customers First
TRIPLE J
TRIPLE J MOTORS
Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
OPEN Mon-Fri: 8am to 6pm • Sat: 8am to 5pm
Sales Office: 234-7133 • Parts & Service: 322-7134
autosales@triplejsaipan.com
*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is $2,500.

MVA awarded $1.4M to enhance tourist sites

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Economic Development Administration has awarded the Marianas Visitors Authority $1.4 million that will be used to renovate and enhance the CNMI's most popular tourist sites.

MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said in an interview that infrastructure enhancements are underway for popular tourist spots on island such as Bird Island, Suicide Cliff, and Last Command Post.

"We [got] a $1.4-million grant from the Economic Development Administration, which we are going to use to fund the renovation of Bird Island—a complete renovation [that] includes brand new railings, brand new stairs, a lookout deck, and paved organized parking," he said. "We're [also] going to re-design and re-develop Suicide Cliff and we're going to build a brand-new restroom at the Last Command Post. Although there is a restroom there now, it is not in service, and it has been vandalized and destroyed after someone broke in there and smashed the toilets."

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

The Economic Development Administration has awarded the Marianas Visitors Authority $1.4 million for the renovation and enhancement of the CNMI's most popular tourist sites. Photo shows a damaged bench at Bird Island Lookout.

Korea's No. 1 travel agency suggests the Marianas this season

This fall and winter South Korea's No. 1 travel agency, Hana Tour, is recommending the Marianas as a family travel destination that combines warm weather, resort relaxation, and island sightseeing.

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, visitors from Korea comprised 82% of all travelers to the Marianas in fiscal year 2023. Based on Hana Tour's booking data to Saipan, the main travelers are families with children, with 22% of travelers aged 0-19 and 58% of travelers aged 30-49 in the third quarter of this year.

"Saipan is an ideal destination for families to spend time together, and its popularity is growing every year," said a representative from Hana Tour. "We will continue to provide products and services for all ages with unique travel products utilizing various islands in the Marianas."

Hana Tour offers a variety of Marianas travel packages for families. The Saipan 5-Day Package for two adults and two children includes relaxation and activities at Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Aqua Resort Club, Coral Ocean Resort Saipan, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, and Saipan World Resort. In August, the travel agency launched a new four-day Saipan package that includes a day tour of Tinian, only a 10-minute light aircraft flight from Saipan.

Mode Tour is also offering a new package to Saipan that includes golf at LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort and accommodations at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. The promotion includes a 40% discount for the first 100 groups booked.

Both travel agency promotions are supported by the MVA and have received coverage in dozens of online and offline media publications in Korea. ***(MVA)***

WAR

From page 1

perpetrators to account once conflicts are over has often proved elusive.

Here is a look at some of the issues.

WHAT ARE THE RULES OF WAR?

The rules of armed conflict are governed by a set of internationally recognized laws and resolutions, including the United Nations charter, which prohibits aggressive wars but allows countries the right to self-defense.

Battlefield behavior has international humanitarian laws including the Geneva Conventions, drawn up after World War II and agreed on by almost every nation.

The four conventions agreed upon in 1949 set out that civilians, the wounded and prisoners must be treated humanely in wartime. They ban murder, torture, hostage-taking and "humiliating and degrading treatment" and require fighters to treat the other side's sick and wounded.

The rules apply both to wars between nations and conflicts, like that between Israel and Hamas, in which one of the parties is not a state.

Another key document in the law of war is the founding Rome Statue of the International Criminal Court, which defines as war crimes acts including intentional attacks on civilians, civilian settlements or humanitarian workers, destroying property where not militarily necessary, sexual violence and unlawful deportation.

Other agreements ban certain types of weapons, such as chemical or biological munitions. Most but not all countries have signed up to these.

HAS HAMAS COMMITTED WAR CRIMES?

Hamas has fired thousands of rockets at Israeli towns and cities, and on Oct. 7 sent hundreds of gunmen across the border from Gaza. They attacked and killed civilians—including children and elderly people—in their homes and neighborhoods and kidnapped scores of others. Israel says at least 1,400 people died and 199 others were abducted.

Haim Abraham, a lecturer in law at University College London, said the evidence of crimes is clear.

"They massacred civilians at their homes. They kidnaped civilians, taking them hostage. All of these things are clearly war crimes," he said.

Jeanne Sulzer, a lawyer with the Commission for International Justice of Amnesty International France, said the Geneva Conventions state that "civilians should never be taken hostage. If they are, that may be characterized as a war crime."

HAS ISRAEL'S RESPONSE BEEN LEGAL?

The Israeli military has pounded Hamas-ruled Gaza with airstrikes, blocked deliveries of food, water, fuel and electricity and told people to leave the northern half of the strip ahead of a possible ground invasion. Gaza authorities say 2,800 people have died and 11,000 have been injured during days of bombardment.

Critics accuse Israel of collectively punishing Gaza's 2 million residents.

The Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross has said the instruction for hundreds of thousands of people to leave their homes, "coupled with the complete siege explicitly denying them food, water, and electricity, are not compatible with international humanitarian law."

The Israeli army says it follows international law and strikes only legitimate military targets as it seeks to root out militants who embed themselves among the civilian population.

Human Rights Watch has accused Israel of using munitions containing white phosphorus. The incendiary substance is not banned, but its use in densely populated areas has been widely condemned. The Israeli Defense Force has denied using white phosphorus as a weapon in Gaza.

HANMI

From page 1

an exemption to the U.S. DOT China order Part 213 is vital since the CNMI's hotel occupancy figures remain crippled by the continuing impacts of reduced visitor arrivals.

DOT's China Order Part 213 caps the number of flights from China to the U.S. at 24 flights a month. The cap covers all states and includes all U.S. territories.

To give a clearer picture, Seo shared that from August 2023, the CNMI's hotel occupancy was about 23.77%.

Specifically, Seo said the number of rooms sold as of August 2023 is 14,582, but the CNMI's total number of rooms available is about 61,351.

"Our industry is grappling with historically low and unsustainable occupancy rates and subdued room sales, even as the number of available rooms remains high. The average room rate, though seemingly reasonable, is reflective of the competitive pricing we've had to adopt to attract guests, which in turn impacts our collective ability to remain viable as an industry. The recovery of the hotel and broader tourism sector is intricately tied to the revival of international air service, especially from key markets like China. China has been a critical factor in sustaining hotel occupancy rates and has been instrumental in supporting economic activity and revenue for the industry. Current occupancy numbers are being supported by a single source market—South Korea—and it is clear that recovery of the industry and the economy cannot rely on this market alone," Seo said.

Overall, without a sustained source of arrivals, HANMI will not be able to accomplish its goal to help the CNMI's tourism industry recover, Seo said.

"We understand our responsibilities to the CNMI economy. Our goal and commitment to the CNMI community is to recover; however, the lack of direct air service has been a major impediment to our efforts and, without a sustained source of arrivals, we will not be able to accomplish this task," he said.

In closing, Seo stated that HANMI is asking for an expedited approval of the Commonwealth Ports Authority's application for the exemption.

"Such an exemption will not only boost our sector but will also have a ripple effect on the wider economy of the CNMI and allow us to remain in operation, support government revenue, and continue to be a significant source of employment for residents of these islands. We sincerely hope that you will consider approving the CPA's application, understanding the profound impact it can have on reviving the hospitality sector and. by extension, uplifting the livelihoods of many residents," he said.

ROBBERY

From page 1

police and acting spokesperson Simon T. Manacop, DPS has already identified one of the three suspects—repeat offender Juanita P. Villanueva—but she is still at large and the police are asking for the community's help in apprehending her.

An arrest warrant signed by Superior Court Associate Judge Wesely is out for Villanueva's arrest, with her bail set at $50,000. Villanueva, 22, is facing charges of robbery, conspiracy, and theft.

As for the two other suspects, Manacop said DPS has yet to identify them.

If anyone has information about this, they may call the DPS Criminal Investigation Division at 670-664-9042, DPS headquarters at 670-664-9001, or the Crime Stoppers hotline at 670-234-7272 if they wish to remain anonymous.

According to a previous *Saipan Tribune* article, police received a call at around 8:48pm on Sunday, Oct. 15, about a robbery at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan in San Antonio. Preliminary investigation revealed that the male victim was robbed at gunpoint while parked at the San Antonio beach side behind the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School.

In an interview with the victim, he claimed that a woman known to him had called him earlier that evening, asking him to buy cellphone load for her. The victim agreed to purchase the load and met the woman at the parking lot of PIC to give it to her.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

HOURS

From page 1

He said the 10-hour cut per pay period for all Legislative Bureau staff will indeed happen. ("That's required by law and we have to implement that, so 70 hours will be charged toward the general fund."), but the 10 hours that were cut will be supplemented by the bureau's ARPA funds.

The Legislative Bureau has 29 employees, including Tenorio.

He said that during the deliberations they had on the budget, it was "very clear" that cuts have to be made on the number of hours under the general fund.

So early on, Tenorio said, he had this discussion with Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) and House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and that they all agreed that if the funds are available from another source (in this case, ARPA), they should use that so the bureau will be operating without any cuts in hours.

"If you look at the Budget Act, it does provide for outside sources to make up for the reduction under the general fund," he pointed out.

In their case, he said, because they don't have any real outside sources except when they were granted ARPA, that's the only source of money they can use.

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios early this month issued a directive to impose additional cost-cutting measures and cut the work schedule of employees under Executive Branch departments and agencies from 72 hours per pay period to 70 hours, effective Oct. 4, 2023.

Palacios said it has become necessary to impose additional cost-cutting measures and implement the appropriation levels, in light of the passage of Public Law 23-09, or the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Appropriations Act.

IN MEMORIAM

On Friday, October 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the American Memorial Park, the 17th Saipan & N. Islands Municipal Council Chairwoman Marian DLG. Tudela, Vice Chairwoman Tonie M. Tudela, and Secretary Carmen C. Pangelinan respectfully request the presence of families,relatives, friends, and the general public of Saipan to partake in the annual **In Memoriam** blessing, remembrance and prayer for over 900 civilian children, women, men, and elderly who died in the Battle of Saipan during World War II.

Acosta, Maria Lizama
Ada, Dolores
Ada, Maria Magdalena Cabrera
Ada, David A.
Ada, David Lizama
Ada, Francisco Cepeda
Ada, Joaquin Santos
Ada, Trinidad
Ada, Rosa Terlaje
Ada, Victor C.
Agulto, Vicente Concepcion
Agulto, Vicente Concepcion
Aguon, Carmen Cabrera
Aguon, Gregorio Concepcion
Aguon, Ignacio M.
Aguon, Josefina Castro
Aguon, Ramon Borja
Akiyama , Antonio Reyes
Akiyama, Elpidia Olivia Reyes
Akiyama, Herman Candido Reyes
Akiyama, Jesus Reyes
Akiyama, Jose Esteban Reyes
Akiyama, Juan Reyes
Akiyama, Pedro Tomomitsu
Akiyama, Teresita Catalina Reyes
Aldan, Ana A.
Aldan, Antonia A.
Aldan, Bernadita Castro
Aldan, Carmen Victoria Rosario
Aldan, Felix C.
Aldan, Juan A.
Aldan, Juan de leon
Aldan, Maria
Aldan, Maria A.
Aldan, Merced
Aldan, Nicolasa Guerrero
Aldan, Regina Castro
Aldan, Soledad Castro
Aldan, Vicenta
Aldan, Vicente A.
Andon, Joanis
Arnold, Lens
Apatang, Constancia Maratita
Apatang, Nicolasa Maratita
Aquino, Felipe
Arasi, Dolores M.
Arasi, Fernando M.
Ari, Dolores Liguat
Arriola, Maria Consolacion Fausto
Arriola, Felipe Fausto
Arriola, Francisco Acosta
Arriola, Luisa Garrido
Arriola, Maria Illuminada Fausto
Arriola, Mariana Fausto
Arriola, Miguel Lizama
Atalig, Ana Hocog
Atalig, Angelina Hocog
Atalig, Antonia Taimanao
Atalig, Candida Duenas
Atalig, Joaquin Duenas
Atalig, Juan A.
Atalig, Lucia Hocog
Atalig, Manuel Barcinas
Atalig, Ramon Dela Cruz
Attao, Vicente Magofna
Ayuyu, Corbiniano Ogo
Ayuyu, David
Ayuyu, Francisca A.
Ayuyu, Francisca M.
Ayuyu, Juanita Ogo
Ayuyu, Maria S.
Ayuyu, Pedro C.
Ayuyu, Pedro Matantaotao
Ayuyu, Toriano Ogo
Ayuyu, Vicente Atalig
Ayuyu, Vicente Masga
Ayuyu, Vicente Mendiola
Babauta, Ana P.
Babauta, Benjamin Lizama
Babauta, Luis Rosario
Babauta, Lydia Pasgual
Babauta, Rosalina SN
Barcinas, Lorenza M.
Basa, Francisco Blas
Basa, Rita Sablan
Bermudes, Antonio Quitano
Bermudes, Jose C.
Bermudes, Manuel Guerrero
Bermudes, Margarita Castro
Bermudes, Rita Guerrero
Bermudes, Rosa Quitano
Billy, Sina
Blas, Basilio Matagolai
Blas, Dolores Castro
Blas, Juan Matagolai
Blas, Juana Deleon Guerrero
Blas, Nicolasa Torres
Blas, Remedio Castro
Borja, Felis Tudela
Borja, Dolores Cepeda
Borja, Francisco F.
Borja, Henry Leon Guerrero
Borja, Jose C.
Borja, Jose S.
Borja, Jose S.
Borja Josefa Cabrera
Borja, Joseph S.
Borja, Manuel Dela Cruz
Borja, Martin F.
Borja, Rita D.
Borja, Serafin Salas
Borja, Victoria Tudela
Boyer, Delgadina Maria Palacios
Boyer, Martin F.
Brother Miguel Timoner, S.J.
Cabrera, Amparo Muna
Cabrera, Antonia Manibusan
Cabrera, Antonio Camacho
Cabrera, Barsilisa Manalo
Cabrera, Bernadita R.
Cabrera, Carmen
Cabrera, Celia Maria Mendiola
Cabrera, Concepcion C.
Cabrera, Crispin Torres
Cabrera, Dolores Muna Charfauros
Cabrera, Felipe Muna
Cabrera, Jesus S.
Cabrera, Joaquin M.
Cabrera, Joaquin Taisague
Cabrera, Jose Cruz
Cabrera, Juan Cruz
Cabrera, Maria Mendiola
Cabrera, Victoria Dela Cruz
Calvo, Alexandro
Calvo, Maria
Camacho, Ana Maxima San Nicolas
Camacho, Antonia Sablan
Camacho, Antonio Castro
Camacho, Antonio Lujan
Camacho, Carmen Sablan
Camacho, Francisco Salas
Camacho, Francisco San Nicolas
Camacho, Jesus L.
Camacho, Jesus Tudela
Camacho, Jesusa Sablan
Camacho, Jose Castro
Camacho, Jose Diaz
Camacho, Jose Tudela
Camacho, Juan Compus
Camacho, Juana Lujan
Camacho, Maria del Pilar Diaz
Camacho, Maxima SN.
Camacho, Rita C.
Camacho, Rita S.
Camacho, Rita Sablan
Camacho, Roman Aguon
Camacho, Rosario Lujan
Camacho, Vicente Sablan
Campos, Maria
Castro, Angel
Castro, Antonio Lizama
Castro, Augusta R.
Castro, Carmen
Castro, Felis Manibusan
Castro, Francisco Lizama
Castro, Gregorio Cruz
Castro, Ignacio
Castro, Jesus
Castro, Jesus T.
Castro, Jose Aldan
Castro, Jose Camacho
Castro, Jose Diaz
Castro, Juan Garrido
Castro, Juan R.
Castro, Luis Aldan
Castro, Maria Castro
Castro, Maria R.
Castro, Maria R.
Castro, Maria Sarmiento
Castro, Martha Taimanao
Castro, Martin Cabrera
Castro, Ormat
Castro, Pedro
Castro, Rita P.
Castro, Vicenta
Celis, Regino
Cepeda, Antonio Agulto
Cepeda, Efrain
Cepeda, Felis Ogo
Cepeda, Gertrudis Ogo
Cepeda, Joaquin Ogo
Cepeda, Jose
Cepeda, Jose Iglecias
Cepeda, Josefa Ogo
Cepeda, Juan S.
Cepeda, Maria Cruz
Cepeda, Mariana S.
Cepeda, Monica Ogo
Cepeda, Pedro Ogo
Cepeda, Rosa Ogo
Cepeda, Trinidad Manibusan
Cepeda, Vicente Ogo
Charfauros, Dolores Muna
Charfauros Guillermo Muna
Charfauros, Jose Sablan
Charfauros, Pilar Muna
Chargualaf, Emilia Odai
Chargualaf, Jose Odai
Chargualaf, Maria Odai
Chargualaf, Roberto Sablan
Chong, Francisco
Chong, Luis
Cho-ki-jo, Fermina Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Gertrudis Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Joaquin Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Jose
Cho-ki-jo, Maria Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Pedro Cepeda
Cho-ki-jo, Vicente Cepeda
Concepcion, Antonio Sablan
Concepcion, Gertrudes Gumataotao
Concepcion, Ignacio
Concepcion, Ignacio Borja
Concepcion, Jose Manglona
Concepcion, Justo S.
Concepcion, Natividad Sablan
Crisostimo, Regina Dela Cruz Cepeda
Cordoba, Ana Pasgual
Cruz, Adelia Taisakan
Cruz, Agapita M.
Cruz, Alexandria
Cruz, Ancelmo
Cruz, Asuncion S.
Cruz, Aurelia
Cruz, Candilaria Taitingfong
Cruz, Concepcion Reyes
Cruz, Dolores Camacho
Cruz, David Ayuyu
Cruz, Emilia S.
Cruz, Gabriel S.
Cruz, Guillermo Roberto
Cruz, Inocensio Gabriel Sablan
Cruz, Jose Atalig
Cruz, Jose San Pedro
Cruz, Juan Lujan
Cruz, Juana Lujan
Cruz, Lucia
Cruz, Maria Masga
Cruz, Maria Quitugua
Cruz, Maria Ana Sablan
Cruz, Marian T.
Cruz, Nicolasa
Cruz, Odelio Taisakan
Cruz, Victoria Sablan
Dela Cruz, Agapita
Dela Cruz, Andersina Quichocho
Dela Cruz, Dolores Lizama
Dela Cruz, Fermin Ogo
Dela Cruz, Ignacia Maria
Dela Cruz, Ignacio Flores
Dela Cruz, Jose Duenas
Dela Cruz Lucia Villagomez
Dela Cruz, Manuel
Dela Cruz, Maria Fejeran
Dela Cruz, Maria Masga
Dela Cruz, Pedro Salas
Dela Cruz, Ramon
Dela Cruz, Ramon Flores
De la Torre, Felix Roberto
De la Torre, Jesus Roberto
De la Torre, Jose Roberto
De la Torre, Remedio Salas Roberto
De la Torre, Vicente Torres
Deleon Guerrero, Aurelia
Deleon Guerrero, Francisco Arriola
Deleon Guerrero, Jesus Clemente Reyes
Deleon Guerrero, Joaquin Palacios
Deleon Guerrero, Joaquin S.
Deleon Guerrero, Joaquin Taitano
Deleon Guerrero, Juan Muna
Deleon Guerrero, Lucia
Deleon Guerrero, Mariana Cepeda
Deleon Guerrero, Pedro Chabran
Deleon Guerrero, Ramon
Deleon Guerrero, Ramon Santos
Delos Reyes, Jose Borja
Delos Santos, Juan Torres
Demapan, Ramon
Demapan, Rita Borja
Diaz, Carmen Villagomez
Diaz, Francisco Cruz
Diaz, Isabel Diaz
Diaz, Margarita Deleon Guerrero
Diaz, Nicolas Diaz
Dodi, Maria
Duenas, Francisco Palacios
Duenas, Jose Cabrera
Duenas, Juana Hocog
Duenas, Rita Muna
Esteves, Joaquin I.
Fabian, Casiano F.
Faibar, Maria Lairopi
Faisao, Juan Piere
Faisao, Manuel Quidachay
Falig, Fernando Antonio Magofna
Fejeran, Jesus
Fitial, Cornelia
Fitial, Gregorio Repeki
Fitial, Jesus Reyes
Fitial, Mariana Satur
Fitipol, Carmen Taisacan
Fitipol, Juan Taisacan
Fitipol, Rita Taisacan
Fitipol, Vicente Taisaca
Flores, Antonio Aguon
Flores, Leonardo Bruggemann
Flores, Luis M.
Fujihira, Casiano Sablan
Fujihira, Jose
Fujihira, Teresita Atalig
Gogue, Julian Aflague
Guerrero, Dolores Cruz
Guerrero, Francisca Tenorio
Guerrero, Jesus R.
Guerrero, Joaquin Palacios
Guerrero, Joaquin Sablan
Guerrero, Juan Muna
Guerrero, Juana Duenas
Guerrero, Mariana Cepeda
Guerrero, Nicolas Cruz
Guilles, Candelaria
Guilles, Maria
Hara, Angelica Muna
Hara, Augustino Nobutaka
Hocog, Carlos Atalig
Hocog, Juanita Atalig
Hondonero, Agapito
Hondonero, Caroline U.
Hondonero, Filomena Untalan
Hosono, Rita Selepeo
Igibara, Ignacio Pangelinan
Igibara, Magdalena Pangelinan
Igibor, Jacoba
Igimara, Antonio
Iginoef, Guadalupe Rabauliman
Iginoef, Ismael Rabauliman
Iginoef, Jose Rabauliman
Iginoef, Tomas Rabauliman
Igisaiar, Joaquin
Igisaiar, Jose Lisua
Igisaiar, Jose Quidachay
Igisaiar, Maria Quidachay
Igisaiar, Pedro
Igisomar, Felix N.
Igisomar, Jose Lisua
Igisomar, Pedro
Igisomar, Rosa R.
Igitol, Elena N.
Igitol, Antonio
Igitol, Esteban Lian
Igitol, Jesus Igimara
Igitol, Jesus Lian
Igitol, Jose Nimaisei
Igitol, Sabino
Iglesias, Jose Buenaventura
Iguel, Jesus
Iguel, Susan (Luciana)
Ilano, Dolores
Ilano, Maria
Ilano, Mariano
Ilisari, Gregorio Sarong
Ilitayang, Maria Litulumar
Ilo, Juliana Romolor
Imamura, Ichino
Indalecio , Jose Taimano
Indalecio , Maria Taimano
Inos, Marcus Songao
Itibus, Edward Kapileo
Itibus, Manuel R.
Itibus, Nicolasa R.
Itibus, Ramon Ruabutag
Itilug, Juan
Iwashita, Susana Cruz
Izuka, Augustin
Jones, Bonifacio San Nicolas
Jones, Sabino San Nicolas
Kaipat, Felis Rogolifoi
Kaipat, Isaac Mulemar
Kaipat, Jesus Iguel
Kaipat, Joaquin Rapugao
Kaipat, Juan Olorit
Kaipat, Luisa R.
Kaipat, Sisto Malus
Kamiyama, Efrain Blanco
Kani, Anuncia Taman
Kani, Daniel Iguel
Kani, Maria Iguel
Kani, Maxima Iguel
Kani, Miguel Iguel
Kani, Vicente Iguel
Kani, Vicente Nebuer
Kaniki, Manuel
Kapileo, Vicente I.
Kilat, Petra Lairop
King, Ignacio Borja
Kisa, Concepcion Camacho
Kisa, Fernando C.
Kisa, Fernando Sablan
Kondo, Sina
Kosaka, Martin Borja
Kyota, Tatsuo
Lairope, Fernando
Lairope, Juan
Lairope, Juliana
Laniyo, Bernardo Aren
Laraol, Ramon
Liesip, Aquida
Lifoifoi Donata Rebuenog
Lifoifoi, Fermina Rebuenog
Limes, Jose Angairo
Limes, Vicente Marciano
Lisua, Enrique I.
Lisua, Maria I
Lisua, Susario I.
Lisua, Vicente
Litagian, Antonia Lasop
Lizama, Ana Quitugua
Lizama, Ana Taisacan
Lizama, Benedicto Mendiola
Lizama, Benedicto Mendiola
Lizama, Frederico Mendiola
Lizama, Frederico Mendiola
Lizama, Isabel
Lizama, Isabel
Lizama, Isidro Maximo Mendiola
Lizama, Joaquin Cruz
Lizama, Joaquin Naputi
Lizama, Juan Cabrera
Lizama, Juan Cruz
Lizama, Juan
Lizama, Juan P.
Lizama, Laura
Lizama, Lorenzo De Leon Guerrero
Lizama, Matilde P.
Lizama, Remedio Quitugua
Lizama, Ricardo
Luan, Venancio Limes
Lujan, Juana
Maisog, Concepcion
Maligar, Ignacio
Maliti, Marcela S.
Manahane, Felix
Manalisay, Jesus
Manalo, Alberta Materne
Manalo, Antonio
Manalo, Jose Toves
Manalo, Margarita Norita
Manalo, Tomasa Villagomez
Manalo, Vicente Toves
Mangarero, Rita R.
Manglona, Ana Masga
Manglona, Antonio Camacho
Manglona, Carmen Masga
Manglona, Crispin Ada
Manglona, Crispin Masga
Manglona, Eugenio Mesngon
Manglona, Fedolin Masga
Manglona, Gabriel Masga
Manglona, Hubert Taisakan
Manglona, Ignacio Atalig
Manglona, Ignacio Gogue
Manglona, Jose Concepcion
Manglona, Josepa Cruz
Manglona, Juan Hocog
Manglona, Pablo Taisakan
Manglona, Pedro Taimanao
Manglona, Saelia Atalig
Manglona, Silvero Taisakan
Manglona, Simeon Taisakan
Manglona, Theordoro Taisakan
Manglona, Vicente Ogo
Manibusan, Antonia Pangelinan
Manibusan, Juan Santa Maria
Manibusan, Thomasa Reyes
Maratita, Acoba H.
Maratita, Angelina Masga
Maratita, Augustin M.
Maratita, Dionisio S.
Maratita, Eusebio Quichocho
Maratita, Gregorio Masga
Maratita, Jose Masga
Maratita, Maria Masga
Maratita, Juan Mundo
Maratita, Satutnina Camacho
Maratita, Vicente Quichocho
Marciano, Jacoba Hape
Mareham, Dolores N.
Mareham, Juan N.
Mareham, Margarita
Masga, Andres M.
Masga, Antonia M.
Masga, Carmen A.
Masga, Cecilia C.
Masga, Crisogomo
Masga, Felicidad Hocog
Masga, Gabriel Lizama
Masga, Gregorio
Masga, Heraro Hocog
Masga, Joaquina Gogue
Masga, Joaquina Hocog
Masga, Juan Lizama
Masga, Maria
Masga, Pedro
Masga, Sabena A.
Masga, Vicente
Masga, Vicente Hocog
Matantaotao, Cirilo
Matsumoto, Francisco Blanco
Matsunaga, Juan Maria
Matsunaga, Juan W.
Matsunaga, Maria N.
Mendiola, Ana Esteves
Mendiola, Edward A.
Mendiola, Fermin A,
Mendiola, Lohani Esteves
Mendiola, Jose Quidachay
Mendiola, Luisa Pangelinan
Mendiola, Maria Lourdes Sablan
Mendiola, Maria Angoco
Mendiola, Maria Manglona
Mendiola, Ramon Camacho
Mendiola, Rita Sablan
Mendiola, Tomas Manglona
Mesa, Maria
Mesngon, Loria Kisa
Mesngon, Uton Maratita
Mettao, Maria Faibar
Miham, Alfonso
Moteisou, Maria Olaitiman
Muleta, Benedicto
Muleta, Isabel M.
Muna, Amparo Diaz
Muna, Ana Quidachay
Muna, Carmen
Muna, Gregorio Concepcion
Muna, Gregorio Taitano
Muna, Inigo Atoigu
Muna, Magdalena Camacho
Muna, Maria Cabrera
Muna, Rita Duenas
Muna, Rufina Palacios
Mundo, Justo Hocog
Murakami, Ana Fejeran
Nakatsukasa, Herman Taisacan
Nakatsukasa, Lucia Taisacan
Nakatsukasa, Maria Taisacan
Namauleg, Joaquin Reyes
Namaisei, Elena
Naog, Remedio Pua
Naog, Rufina Pua
Naputi, Antonio Pinaula
Narikawa, Maria Mercedes
Nededog, Guadalupe
Nekeisei, Dolores
Nekai, Lucia
Nerigat, Maria
Nigan, Alfonso
Norita, Antonia
Norita, Maria
Ogarto, Leon Tomol
Ogo, Augusta R.
Ogo, Concepcion B.
Ogo, Juan Borja
Ogo, Maria R.
Ogo, Monica Manglona
Ogo, Ricardo Lizama
Ogo, Salvator Lizama
Ogo, Soledad Lizama
Ogo, Vicente Manglona
Ogo, Vicente Magofna
Ogumoro, Jose R.
Ogumoro, Jose Teregeyo
Ogumoro, Josefa Olopai
Ogumoro, Nicolas Labaorotag
Ogumoro, Rosa R.
Olaitiman, Maria Olorit
Olopai, Antonio Rabauliman
Olopai, Carlos Kaipat
Olopai, Carmen Mareham
Omar, Rita Rogolifoi
Pablo, Ana
Pablo, Antonio Tydingco
Pablo, Jesus C.
Pablo, Jose C.
Pablo, Maria
Palacios, Antonio Sablan
Palacios, Beatrise Sablan
Palacios, Daniel Sablan
Palacios, Florenciana Rabago
Palacios, Herman Pangelinan
Palacios, Herman San Miguel
Palacios, Jose Cepeda
Palacios, Jose Cruz
Palacios, Jose Sablan
Palacios, Juan Taitano
Palacios, Magdalena Sablan
Palacios, Maria Matagolai
Palacios, Rita Sablan
Palacios, Vicente Santos
Palacios, Vicente T.
Pangelinan, Antonia Manahane
Pangelinan, Enrique Cepeda
Pangelinan, Felis Francisco Ito
Pangelinan, Francisco San Nicolas
Pangelinan, Gonzalo DLG.
Pangelinan, Joaquin I.
Pangelinan, Maria S.
Pangelinan, Pedro Ros
Pangelinan, Remedio Blas
Parong, Luisa Malus
Peter, Alfredo Kapileo
Peter, Theodorico Kapileo
Pialur, Ana Malus
Pialur, Vicente
Pilae, Carmen
Pinaula, Vicente Santos
Pua, Dolores Selepeo
Pua, Maria N.
Quidachay, Esteban
Quidachay, Estefania
Quidachay, Juan
Quidachay, Maria Borja
Quidachay, Theresa
Quidachay, Vicente
Quitano, Pilar Maria Roberto
Quitugua, Ana Diaz
Quitugua, Antonia Diaz
Quitugua, Joaquin Ogo
Quitugua, Juan Lizama
Rabago, Dolores Perez
Rabauliman, Bibiana Osomai
Rabauliman, Cecilia Fitial
Rabauliman, Cipriano Igisaiar
Rabauliman, Isidro Somomai
Rabauliman, Juan
Rabauliman, Juan Warakai
Rabauliman, Magdalena Fitial
Rabauliman, Magdalena R.
Rabauliman, Manuel Osomai
Rabauliman, Mariano Fitial
Rabauliman, Viviana Somomai
Rangamar, Joaquin Wabol
Rangamar, Vicente
Rangamar, Vicente Mangabao
Rapaito, Ana
Rapugao, Fabiana
Rasiang, Anastasia Rogolifoi
Rasiang, Dolores Rogolifoi
Rasiang, Estanislao Mareham
Rasiang, Faustina Mareham
Rasiang, Matilde
Repeki, Francisca Norita
Reyes, Alejandro Mariano Charfauros
Reyes, Antonio Ayuyu
Reyes, Antonio B.
Reyes, Antonio Blas
Reyes, Antonio Cruz
Reyes, Bernardo Santa Maria
Reyes, Carmen Sablan
Reyes, Celia Mendiola Cabrera
Reyes, Concepcion Gumataotao
Reyes, Herman Deleon Guerrero
Reyes, Herman S.
Reyes, Herman Tudela
Reyes, Illuminada A.
Reyes, Ines Tudela
Reyes, Isabella Lizama
Reyes, Juan
Reyes, Juan Sablan
Reyes, Juan Torres
Reyes, Leonarda Elpidia Charfauros
Reyes, Leonardo Charfauros
Reyes, Margarita Pia Tudela
Reyes, Maria Chafauros
Reyes Maximina Charfauros
Reyes, Milagro San Nicolas
Reyes, Nicolasa Blas Torres
Reyes, Nicolasa Blas
Reyes, Pilar Charfauros
Reyes, Ramon
Reyes, Reynaldo Ernesto Tudela
Reyes, Rosa Torres
Rios, Maria Santos
Rios, Moses
Rios, Olivia Masga
Rivera, Joaquin
Rogolifoi, Juan
Romolor, Francisco Olaitiman
Roppul, Maria Somorang
Rosario, Bienvenido Jose Taitano
Rosario, Juan Ramon Taitano
Ruak, Jesus
Ruak, Jesus Neisen
Ruak, Luciana Iguel
Sablan, Antonio Guerrero
Sablan, Antonio S.
Sablan, Beatrice Blas
Sablan, Casiano F.
Sablan, Clemente Deleon Guerrero
Sablan, Daniel Rosario
Sablan, Eugenia Mangarero
Sablan, Eulogio Atalig
Sablan, Felis Luis Mangarero
Sablan, Fernando Rufag
Sablan, Francisco (Juan) C.
Sablan, Francisco Rosario
Sablan, George Anthony
Sablan, Herman
Sablan, Jesus Blas
Sablan, Jesus Rosario
Sablan, Joaquin Naputi
Sablan, Joaquin San Nicolas
Sablan, Jose Palomo
Sablan, Jose Santos
Sablan, Juan Camacho
Sablan, Juan Reyes
Sablan, Juan Tudela
Sablan, Juana Concepcion
Sablan, Juana Delos Santos
Sablan, Justo Concepcion
Sablan, Laura Lizama
Sablan, Luis Juan Rosario
Sablan, Luisa P.
Sablan, Magdalena Lizama
Sablan, Maria Camacho
Sablan, Maria Camacho
Sablan, Maria Magdalena Camacho
Sablan, Natividad Deleon Guerrero
Sablan, Pedro Rosario
Sablan, Rita Bermudes
Sablan, Rita C.
Sablan, Rita Delos Santos
Sablan, Vicente R.
Sakisat, Maria M.
Salas, Crispin Agulto
Salas, Dolores Rabago
Salas, Guadalupe N.
Salas, Joaquin Santos
Salas, Joaquin T.
San Nicolas, Anacleta Taisacan
San Nicolas, Aurelia
San Nicolas, Concepcion A.
San Nicolas, Florian Mendiola
San Nicolas, Ignacio
San Nicolas, Joaquin Arceo
San Nicolas, Jose Arceo
San Nicolas, Jose G.
San Nicolas, Orto Mendiola
San Nicolas, Vicente A.
Santos, Begonia Arriola
Santos, Cecilia Naputi
Santos, Dolores Ada
Santos, Ignacio Soyona
Santos, Joaquin Ada
Santos, Joaquin
Salas
Santos, Joaquina Hocog
Santos, Jose
Santos, Josefa Torres
Santos, Josephine
Santos, Margarita Basa
Santos, Maria
Santos, Pedro Torres
Santos, Pedro Villagomez
Santos, Rita Quichocho
Santos, Roque Salas
Santos, Rosa
Santos, Vicente Taitano
Santos, Victor Terlaje
Saralu, Antonia Anguirap
Saralu, Elias
Saralu, Maria Litagian
Saralu, Pablo
Sarong, Felix
Sarong, Gregorio Ilisari
Sarong, Soledad Maciano
Sato, Mariano
Satur, Mariano S.
Saures, Felipe
Saures, Rosa P.
Selepeo, Basilio Roligat
Selepeo, Isidro Rangamar
Selepeo, Joaquin Pialur
Selepeo, Joaquin R.
Selepeo, Nicanora Rangamar
Selepeo, Rita Pelero
Seman, Jacoba Igibor Maguines
Seman, Ambrosio M.
Seman, Ana M.
Seman, Dolores R.
Seman, Maria Dolores Tebuteb
Seman, Ignacio Maligar
Seman, Joaquin Moteisou
Seman, Matilde Takeda
Seman, Rita Mettao
Seman, Vicente Kileleman
Seman, Vicente R.
Shai, China Dela Cruz
Shai, Taka Dela Cruz
Sip, Agueda Nabulis
ASister Genoveva Garate, M.M.B.
Smith, Charlie Jones
Sogoligarag, Rosa Angairo
Somol, Carmen Rapaito
Somorang, Concepcion Rasiang
Somorang, Francisca
Somorang, Jose Rasiang
Somorang, Venancio Rasiang
Songao, Francisco Maratita
Songao, Rita Aguon
Songao, Valentino
Songsong, Bedad Hocog
Songsong, Maria Rivera
Stein, Juan Reyes
Taga, Felisa Ayuyu
Tagabuel, Vicente
Taimanao, Bernardo Apatang
Taimanao, Jesus T.
Taimanao, Manuel Ayuyu
Taimanao, Tito Ayuyu
Taisacan, Ana
Taisacan, Jose Maratita
Taisacan, Jose Rapaito
Taisakan, Biata Mendiola
Taisakan, Juan R.
Taisakan, Maria Masga
Taitano, Concepcion Igitol
Taitano, Consolacion I.
Taitano, Juan Igitol
Taitano, Juan Manahane
Taitano, Mariano Quitano
Taitano, Matilde Igitol
Taitano, Pedro Pangelinan
Taitingfong, Atanacio
Taitingfong, Candelaria Campos
Taitingfong, Juan de Leon
Taitingfong, Juan DLC.
Taman, Dionisia Matagolai
Taman, Maria Matagolai
Tarope, Jose Seman
Tarope, Regina Taitano
Tarope, Ursula Taitano
Tebit, Pablo Saralu
Tebuteb, Fortunata Guilis
Tebuteb, Fermina Guilis
Tebuteb, Jose Roman Guilis
Tebuteb, Maria Estella Guilis
Tebuteb, Ramiro Selepeo
Tenorio, Herminia Villagomez
Tenorio, Francisco C.
Tenorio, Mariana Agulto
Tenorio, Joaquin Torres
Tenorio, Joaquina Pangelinan
Tenorio, Pedro Pangelinan
Tenorio, Juan Torres
Tenorio, Luisa Pangelinan
Teregeyo, Angelina Peter
Teregeyo, Manuel
Teregeyo, Rosa
Teregeyo, Rosa Pialur
Teregeyo, Rosa Somorang
Tilipao, Jose Lalifalo
Tilipao, Jose S.
Tilipao, Maria Rogolifoi
Tilipao, Pedro Lalifalo
Tino, Pedro
Tomol, Felix
Tomol, Francisco Ogarto
Tomol, Leon Ogarto
Tomol, Maria Ogarto
Torres, Emerenciana Concepcion
Torres, Felis Palacios
Torres, Herman Ayuyu
Torres, Herman R.
Torres, Joaquin
Torres, Joaquin Sablan
Torres, Jose Salas
Torres, Jose Salas
Torres, Jose Villagomez
Torres, Josefa Sablan
Torres, Rosa
Torres, Vicente Iglecias
Toves, Ana Agulto
Toves, Antonio Cepeda
Toves, Antonio S.
Toves, Juan Agulto
Toves Juan Deleon Guerrero
Toves, Lucia Kondo
Toves, Thomas Kondo
Tudela, Francisca Pangelinan
Tudela, Jose Deleon Guerero
Tydingco, Ana
Tydingco, Antonio
Tydingco, Dolores Basa
Tydingco, Jose Camacho
Tydingco, Maria
Ulloa, Felix
Villagomez, Carmen Pangelinan
Villagomez, Cecilia Garrido
Villagomez, Jesus Seman
Villagomez, Joaquin P.
Villagomez, Joaquin Tenorio
Villagomez, Pedro Delos Santos
Wabol, Asuncion M.
Wabol, Augustina
Wabol, Felipe Satur
Wabol, Jesus Satur
Wabol, Josefa Taisakan
Wabol, Juliana
Wabol, Luis Maligar
Wabol, Pelagia Taisakan
Wabol, Nieves Fitial
Wabol, Roman Taisakan
Wabol, Teresa Taisakan
Wabol, Vicente M.
Wabol, Vicente Taisakan
Warakai, Basileo Ogarto
Warakai, Pedro Ogarto
Warakai, Simeon Ogarto
Warakai, Vicente Ogarto
Wesley, Jose Gumataotao
Wesley, Pedro Camacho
Wesley, Rosana Maria Lizama
Alfonso (surname unknown; from Pohnpei)
Faustino (surname unknown; from Chuuk)

FOR ALL SAINTS DAY AND ALL SOULS DAY

CNMI JROTC helps prepare Mt. Carmel Cemetery

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JROTC cadets receive a certificate of appreciation from Mt. Carmel.

CONTRIBUTED HOTO

JROTC cadets beautify a relative's resting site.

More than 140 JROTC cadets from Kagman High School, Marianas High School, and Saipan Southern High School last Saturday united for a significant cause by helping assist in the cleanup of Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

This event was to prepare for All Saints and All Souls Day. They divided the cemetery into sections and meticulously undertook the task of cleaning and beautification. Their collective efforts were a testament to their commitment to their community service.

These dedicated cadets, armed with gloves and trash bags, cleared the cemetery of debris, cleaned the graves, and removed wilted flowers and weathered wreaths.

From 7:30am to 11:30am the cadet volunteers filled over 200 bags of debris. The cleanup served as a vivid illustration of the strength of collective teamwork and the enduring spirit of community service, making a meaningful, positive change. Overall, the event was a major success as they fulfilled their mission to help Mt. Carmel prepare for All Saints Day and All Souls Day on Nov. 1 and 2 to honor loved ones who have passed. ***(PR)***

NAVFAC Pacific hosts collaborative industry summit

SAN DIEGO—Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific hosted a Pacific Contractor Summit Oct. 5-6 at the Town and Country Resort in San Diego, California.

More than 400 attendees representing various U.S. businesses gathered to learn about construction opportunities and address the increasing construction complexities within the Pacific area of operations.

"The current strategic environment in the Pacific region presents some unique challenges for NAVFAC and our industry partners," said NAVFAC Commander Rear Adm. Dean VanderLey. "The strategic importance, complexity, and remote nature of many upcoming projects will require stronger partnerships, better collaboration, and innovative thinking from all of us. We need to think differently and communicate clearly to identify issues, propose solutions, and solve problems."

NAVFAC Pacific's overall goal was to work with industry partners in order to convey NAVFAC's strategy for acquisition, discuss logistics, address location specific challenges, and capture contractor feedback for a more successful partnership.

"I would like to thank our construction industry partners for participating in this forum," said NAVFAC Pacific Commander Rear Adm. Jeff Kilian. "Our two-day Pacific Contractor Summit served as a key forum to expand our network of industry partners while encouraging healthy competition for upcoming projects."

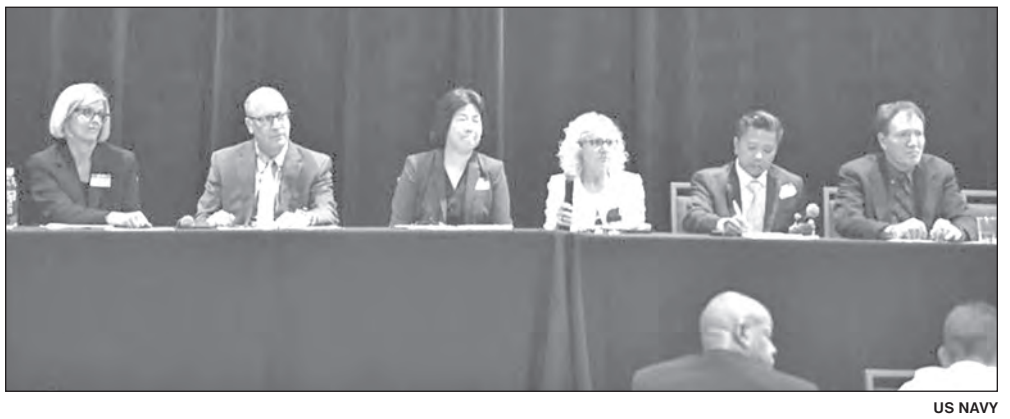
The Pacific Contractor Forum kicked off with welcoming remarks and a Pacific perspective from VanderLey, followed by an Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) Theater overview from its Engineering Division Chief Capt. Chris Coggins, a posture focused overview by the Joint Posture Management Office and an executive summary for contractor feedback.

Official presentations included NAVFAC Pacific legal real estate, environmental, planning, design, construction and acquisition strategy. The second day of the summit summarized an INDOPACOM perspective, followed by discussion on specific location challenges and ended with a question-and-answer session.

NAVFAC is the Naval Shore Facilities, Base Operating Support, and Expeditionary Engineering Systems Command that delivers life-cycle technical and acquisition solutions aligned to Fleet and Marine Corps priorities. Additional updates and information about NAVFAC can be found on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Like their NAVFAC Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/navfac and follow them at www.twitter.com/navfac, or visit our Photostream on Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/navfac. ***(USN)***

US NAVY

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command hosted a Pacific Contractor Summit on Oct. 5-6 at the Town and Country Resort in San Diego, California. NAVFAC Commander Rear Adm. Dean VanderLey kicked off the event with welcoming remarks and a Pacific perspective, followed by an Indo-Pacific Command theater overview from Engineering Division Chief Capt. Chris Coggins, a posture focused overview by the Joint Posture Management Office, and an executive summary for contractor feedback. Official presentations included NAVFAC Pacific legal real estate, environmental, planning, design, construction, and acquisition strategy.



US NAVY

The two-day summit provided the opportunity for discussion on specific location challenges followed by a question-and-answer session with panel members of the Navy.

US NAVY

More than 400 attendees representing various U.S. businesses gathered to learn about construction opportunities and address the increasing construction complexities within the Pacific area of operations.

NMC graduate helps make the CNMI more memorable for visitors

NMC

Jack Aranda graduated from the Northern Marianas College with an associate degree in Applied Science in Hospitality Management in 2022.

After receiving his degree from Northern Marianas College, Jack Aranda has been instrumental in elevating the visitor experience in the CNMI.

As a Community Projects coordinator for the Marianas Visitors Authority, he not only enhances tourists' stays but also unites the community to celebrate the beauty of the islands and the local culture.

"I was always interested in the hospitality field as I enjoy interacting with many tourists who visit our islands," Aranda said.

Aranda graduated from NMC with an associate degree in Applied Science in Hospitality Management in 2022, and has coordinated memberships of MVA and several events such as Marianas Tourism Month, World Tourism Day, and Christmas in the Marianas. He also works closely with the Marianas Tourism Education Council to educate the youth about the importance of the tourism industry in the CNMI.

According to Aranda, his NMC education broadened and polished his skills, which now serve him well in his current role at MVA.

"NMC has created a solid foundation for my career in MVA," Aranda said. "NMC assisted me in developing vital skills from writing, communicating, and getting a better understanding of the tourism industry."

Aranda credits his motivation in pursuing his career in hospitality to his family and close friends.

"My motivation…includes my parents, friends, and close family members who have always supported me throughout my studies. I would also like to thank my fiancée, Christine Roque, for always pushing me. She has supported me from the start to the finish and I cannot thank her enough for all that she has done. I would also like to thank MVA and my boss, Martin Duenas, for allowing me to pursue my education, and working a schedule to balance school and work at the same time. All this would not be possible without their support for higher education, and for that I thank them," Aranda said.

When asked about the most rewarding part of his job, he attributed seeing the enjoyment of others partaking in his events.

"[It's in] seeing others enjoy the events I coordinated and knowing I was able to create those special memories for the community and for those who visit the island," Aranda said.

Aranda shared a message to current students of NMC pursuing their higher education.

"One piece of advice I would give to current NMC students is to continue to work hard for what you believe you can achieve. There may always be setbacks, but there is no limit to what you can accomplish." ***(NMC)***

GMS soars at Primary Grade Forensic Competition

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

After learning the results of the PGFC competition, the GMS Falcons from 3rd grade to 5th grade, coaches Salma Lapuz, Eve Sllanga, and Virginia Ogerio, and administrators MIlagros Songcuan and Glenn Samuel Songcuan gather together to take a winners' photo in front of the new teacher's lounge building.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PGFC winners from Kinder 5 to 2nd grade are excited to pose in front of the camera with their coaches, namely (from left to right) Zenaida Marcelo, Maricel Javier, Madell Baylon, and Bona Angeles, along with the school principal MIlagros Songcuan and school president Glenn Samuel Songcuan.

Green Meadow School is delighted to announce its remarkable success at the Primary Grade Forensic Competition held last Oct. 7, 2023, which featured two divisions: K-2 and grade 3-5. The young talents from Green Meadow School put up an outstanding performance in various categories, showcasing their exceptional skills and abilities in public speaking, interpretation, and dramatic arts.

The K-2 division of the competition saw remarkable performances from Green Meadow School students winning 23 different events from the competition. Also, the students who competed in 3-5 division won a total of 28 events.

Green Meadow School takes immense pride in the achievements of its students in the Primary Grade Forensic Competition. With students excelling in various categories, from Humorous Interpretation to Reader's Forum, Chamorro Speaking, Duo, Declamation, Dramatic Interpretation, Impromptu, and Choral Speaking, Green Meadow School continues to nurture young talents, fostering confidence, creativity, and public speaking skills.

These outstanding results are a testament to the school's dedication to providing a supportive and enriching learning environment. GMS commends their teachers, coaches, and students for their hard work and their incredible ability to shine on stage. Green Meadow School is committed to fostering these talents and inspiring excellence in every student, ensuring a bright and successful future for all.

For more information about Green Meadow School and its various programs, please visit our website or contact our office at (670) 235-2185. ***(GMS)***

ROBERT T. TORRES
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 500730 CK
5960 Plata Drive Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)234-7859 | Fax (670)234-575
Attorney for Petitioner Joseph C. Villagomez

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANDRECINA CHONG VILLAGOMEZ, Deceased. : **Civil Action No. 23-0190** : **NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITOR** : **Date: October 26, 2023 Time: 10:00 a.m. Judge: Joseph N. Camacho**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ANDRECINA CHONG VILLAGOMEZ OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Joseph C. Villagomez** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Andrecina Chong Villagomez, the deceased. The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the attorney for Petitioner, ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5960 Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.

Dated this 5th day of October, 2023.

/s/_____
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES
ATTORNEY AT LAW
5960 Plata Drive
P.O. Box 500730 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Evelyn Diaz Golden

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANTONIO DLG. DIAZ, Decedent.] CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-0186] **NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS DATE: October 26, 2023 TIME: 10:00 A.M. JUDGE: Joseph N. Camacho**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ANTONIO DLG. DIAZ

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **EVELYN DAIZ GOLDEN** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue a Verified Petition to Admit Estate into Probate and Appointment of Administratrix for the Estate of Antonio DLG. Diaz, the decedent. The proposed administrator is **BARBARA T. SABLAN.** The Attorney for the Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5960 Plata Drive P.O. Box 500730, Saipan MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the attorney for Petitioner, **ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law**, at the address above indicated.

Dated this 2nd day of October 2023.

/s/_____
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

Joey P. San Nicolas
Attorney-at-Law
San Nicolas Law Office, LLC
2nd Floor, Island Commercial Center, Rm. 203
Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai
P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7659
Fax: (670) 234-9218
Email: jpsn@sannicolaslaw.net
Attorney for Adminstratrix Violeta Ablog

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: NESTOR RAFANAN ABLOG, Decedent.] Civil Action No.:21-0237] **ORDER AFTER HEARING**

This matter came before the Court on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. on Administratrix's Petition for Final Distribution. Attorney Joey P. San Nicolas appeared on behalf of the Administratrix. Administratrix, through Counsel, requested for a short continuance.

Based on Counsel's request and for good cause shown, the Court hereby continues this matter to October 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Administratrix shall republish the notice of hearing pursuant to the Rules of Probate.

It is SO ORDERED this 6th day of October, 2023.

_____
Hon. JOSEPH N. CAMACHO
Associate Judge

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1178 Hinemlu' St., Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN; Bach. deg. in medical technology (may be foreign equiv); 2 yrs. exp. as a medical laboratory technician; CNMI Health Care Professions License. Performs routine medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment & prevention of disease at health center/clinic located in Rota, CNMI. Sets up, maintains, calibrates, cleans & tests sterility of medical laboratory equip.

Send resume to:
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, HR DEPT.
P.O. BOX 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1178 Hinemlu' St., Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS; Assoc. deg. in laboratory or biological science or medical technology (may be foreign equiv); 2 yrs. exp. in the job or in any laboratory medicine occupation; CNMI Health Care Professions License. Performs all laboratory testing of patient specimens as designated & scheduled at hospital located in Saipan, CNMI. Participates in all quality assurance activities of laboratory.

Send resume to:
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION, HR DEPT.
P.O. BOX 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXIII, Issue No. 207

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

'Bidenomics' branding backfires as inflation runs rampant

The Biden administration has gleaned the wrong message from James Carville's famous quip, "It's the economy, stupid."

President Joe Biden and the White House have embraced the term "Bidenomics." In a speech over the summer, Biden declared, "Bidenomics is working." The term is supposed to be catchy shorthand for the president's policies and how they have boosted the economy.

But voters aren't buying—nor should they be.

While unemployment remains low at 3.8% in August, many employers still struggle to find workers even after boosting pay. Inflation has eased somewhat, yet remains a problem, particularly for core items. In September, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Consumer Price Index was up 3.7% year-over-year. That's the same rate as August and an increase from the 3% rate in June. It's also a long way from the Federal Reserve's inflation target of 2%. And that 3.7% is building on 7% annual inflation in 2021 and 6.5% in 2022. In June 2022, the annual inflation rate hit 9.1%, a 40-year high.

There's no hiding this from consumers. They see it every time they go to the grocery store, fill up their gas tank or pay their energy bill. Would-be homeowners and renters face serious sticker shock. Unsurprisingly, credit card debt has soared. It topped $1 trillion in the second quarter this year. That's an all-time record.

At the same time, under "Bidenomics" the national debt has roared past $33 trillion, and the president doesn't seem at all concerned. Biden previously tried to pass himself off as a deficit hawk, yet the red ink for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30 was $1.7 trillion—$2 trillion without an administration accounting gimmick involving student loan debt.

Interest payments on the debt now exceed defense outlays. The Wall Street Journal reported last week that the government spent $711 billion on net interest payments during the last fiscal year, up 33% from the previous year.

"The run-up in borrowing costs and the deficit," the Journal noted, "is renewing concerns about Washington's fiscal trajectory/"

This is Bidenomics in action.

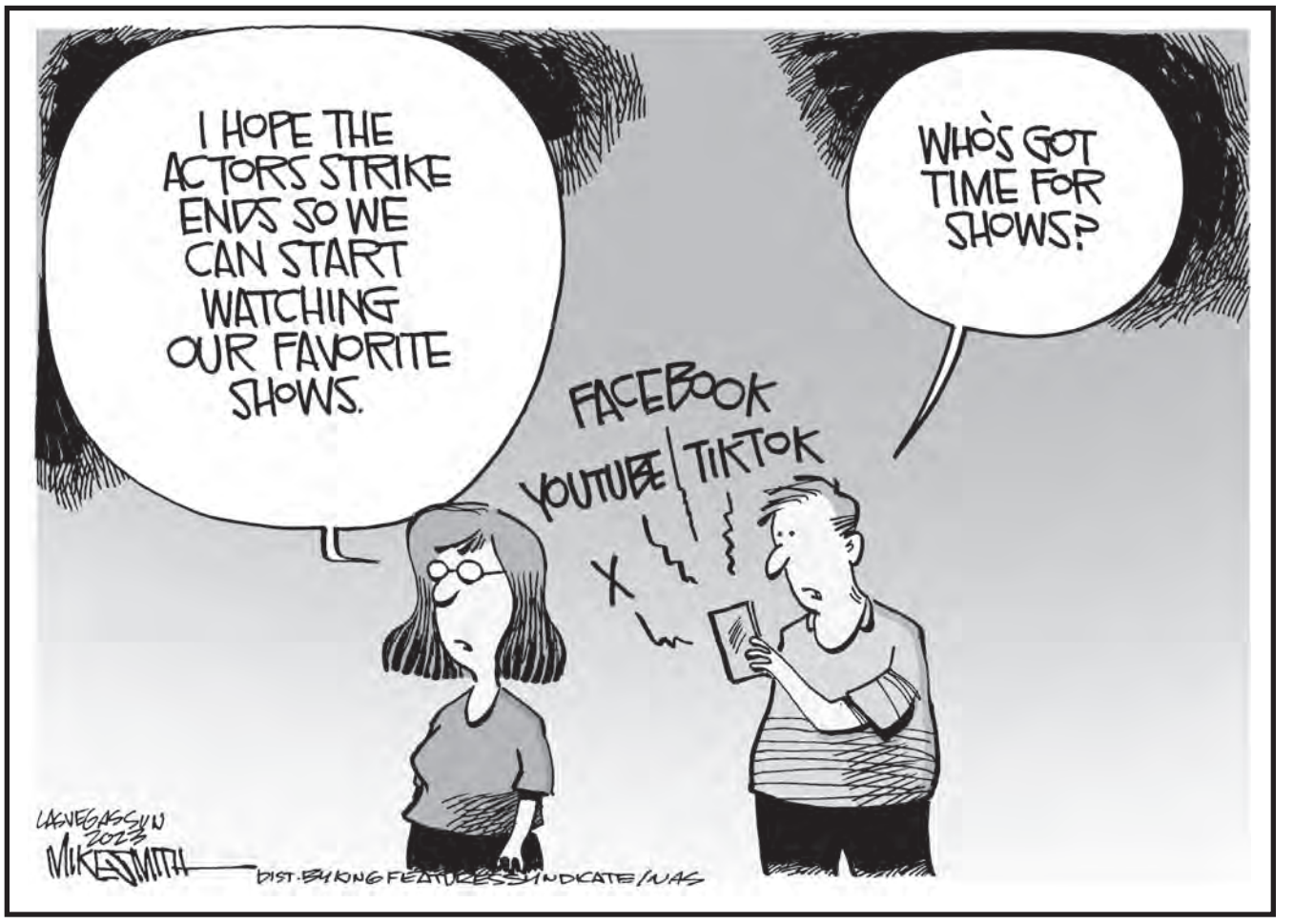
A September USA Today/Suffolk University poll found 70% think the economy is getting worse. An October poll from Fox News found voters strongly disapprove of how Biden has handled economic issues. Just 37% approved, while 62% disapprove.

Biden faces challenges no matter how he tries to gussy up his administration's economic missteps.

First, the Federal Reserve has been hiking interest rates in a belated attempt to stem rising prices. This has triggered higher rates for mortgages, car loans and credit cards. That's going to add to the financial stress felt by families. Next, Biden's massive spending bills clearly contributed to soaring prices. In case that wasn't clear, his "Bidenomics" branding reinforces it again and again.

Voters blame the president for the country's deteriorating finances and our $33 trillion debt. They've rightly concluded, "It's the Bidenomics, stupid."

©2023 Las Vegas Review-Journal



How Polly Klaas' kidnapping and murder 30 years ago changed crime and punishment in America

By KIM CROSS
Los Angeles Times

Kim Cross is a journalist, historian and best-selling author. This article is an adapted excerpt from her book In the Light of All Darkness: Inside the Polly Klaas Kidnapping and the Search for America's Child.

When 12-year-old Polly Klaas was kidnapped by a stranger from her Northern California home on Oct. 1, 1993, the efforts to find her drew worldwide attention. When Polly's body was found 64 nights after her abduction, the outpouring of grief in her hometown and beyond was overwhelming.

Why had Polly's case so profoundly touched the nation and the world? Eve Nichol, Polly's mom, didn't know. She realized not every family receives this kind of support. But she hoped that what had been learned from Polly's case would help galvanize some other community in the future. If Polly's fate could change laws or inspire efforts to prevent child abuse, perhaps "something good can come out of this horror," she thought.

In fact, the Klaas investigation would become a Hall of Fame case in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's San Francisco division.

"The case was immensely important to us at the time and was followed very closely," said former FBI Director Louis J. Freeh, who implemented a bureau wide Crimes Against Children program during his tenure. Members of the Klaas investigative team played a key role in that nationwide effort and used insights gleaned from the case to improve the bureau's response to child abductions. Mary Ellen O'Toole, the FBI profiler who worked the case, later wrote the FBI's official kidnapping protocol.

The Klaas investigation didn't just inform the ways we search for and find missing children, but also the way the FBI investigates many other types of crime. Investigative methods tested and proved in this case forever transformed the bureau's approach to crime scene investigation, forensics, behavioral science, rapid response and kidnapping protocols.

For example, this case marked the FBI's first use of fluorescent powder and alternate light sources. These tools proved their value by identifying the latent palm print on Polly's bunk bed frame, fibers linking four crime scenes, and other evidence essential to the arrest and conviction of Richard Allen Davis, Polly's kidnapper and killer, who was sentenced to death and currently resides on death row in San Quentin.

On the day of Polly's memorial, Assistant Special Agent in Charge Mark Mershon got a call from Quantico, Virginia, with good news: Based on the results of Polly's case, FBI headquarters had earmarked money to purchase alternate light sources. At a cost of $8,000 per unit, this was a major investment and a big win for a new approach to investigations with the use of an "evidence response team."

The Klaas investigation was the first major case to be run by such a team in the FBI. Based in the Bay Area, it proved the effectiveness of quick responding local teams trained to process crime scenes, gather trace evidence and work closely with the FBI lab. The evidence response team model was subsequently adopted bureau wide. Members of the San Francisco team would apply skills and lessons forged in the Klaas case to a number of other cases including the Unabomber, the Oklahoma City bombing and the 2001 World Trade Center attacks.

Today, the FBI has more than 1,000 evidence response team members, and each geographic division has its own dedicated team.

The Klaas case also marked the first time an FBI profiler was embedded with an evidence response team. The profiler in Polly's case worked side by side with the team to combine behavioral science with forensic science. This approach would be repeated in other high profile cases such as the kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart and the disappearance of Natalee Holloway.

Some of the tragic twists of the Klaas case were used to spur big changes. Communication between federal and local law enforcement officials was streamlined and improved. Computers were put in patrol cars, so officers could look up a suspect's prior arrests and convictions in real time.

One of the biggest lessons of the case—the handling of child witnesses—inspired major changes. Today, child witnesses and victims are interviewed by trained experts, a major investigative change that accelerated after the Klaas investigation.

In 1996, the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children held the nation's first child forensic interviewing clinic. A new kind of specialist emerged: child and adolescent forensic interviewers. Though they work closely with law enforcement agencies, these interviewers are typically civilians trained through an internationally recognized, research based curriculum developed by the National Children's Advocacy Center.

Child and adolescent forensic interviewers use research based protocols for interviewing young witnesses and victims.

See HOW on Page 9

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Delta Management Corp. celebrates years of success with OVR consumers

By JIM ARENOVSKI
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Arenovski is president of Delta Management Corp., which operates five Shell gas stations on Saipan.

In honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, I am excited to spotlight a couple of transformative programs that have not only proven extremely advantageous for Delta Management but have also paved the way for employment opportunities for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation consumers.

Delta Management proudly operates five Shell-branded service stations on Saipan and has forged a fruitful partnership with OVR, participating in both the work experience and on-the-job training programs for several years. These initiatives bear the remarkable benefit of funding employee wages, making them a low-risk endeavor for employers.

As entrepreneurs, we should be actively seeking ways to dismantle the barriers preventing this particular group of citizens from securing interviews and employment. It's important to note that individuals with disabilities are a protected class under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, akin to age, sex, and race, and cannot be subjected to discrimination. These programs offer OVR consumers access to employment opportunities that they might not otherwise have. If you've ever encountered challenges in finding suitable candidates for your business, and haven't yet explored the possibilities with OVR, now is the perfect time to do so.

Given the ongoing labor challenges in the CNMI, these programs offer an invaluable solution for employers, allowing them to identify, interview, assess, and onboard OVR consumers who have demonstrated success.

The process commences with businesses providing OVR with the essential prerequisites for consumer success. These could include the ability to stand for extended periods, lift objects, and possess basic communication or math skills. OVR carefully screens its consumers to match the most suitable candidates with these requirements. Given the diversity of disabilities among OVR consumers, precision in defining your needs is key.

The next step involves a meeting or interview with the consumer, typically conducted at the OVR office and attended by the OVR counselor and the consumer's advocate, such as a parent or guardian. It's important to remember that many of these consumers may lack experience with interviews or jobs. As an employer, your role in this relationship is to offer encouragement, training, and guidance to help them become experienced and effective employees.

The key to success lies in identifying consumers who are eager and willing, and then equipping them with the necessary job skills for success.

Upon deciding to accept the consumer, the work experience program begins, which entails processing requirements and paperwork, taking roughly a month before the consumer starts working. After demonstrating their ability to meet the basic job requirements during the three-month work experience program, you can collaborate with OVR to transition to the on-the-job training program. On occasion, you may find that a consumer isn't able to perform the job, in which case the work experience can be terminated without proceeding to on-the-job training.

At the conclusion of the on-the-job training program, the consumer can be officially hired. At Delta Management, we've achieved a remarkable 100% success rate, with consumers evolving into valuable team members and even earning promotions. We take great pride in our track record and remain committed to attracting talent to meet our growing business needs.

Here are some key practices that have made our partnership with OVR successful:

- Approach this program with the intent of finding a dedicated employee.
- Understand that while there may be a more extended training process, the outcome is an effective and loyal employee. Once they've learned the job, they often excel.
- Ensure your staff responsible for training the consumer understands that learning may take longer and that encouragement is crucial.
- Regularly seek feedback from trainers regarding the consumer's progress and make adjustments as necessary.
- Maintain regular check-ins with the consumer to gauge progress and address any challenges they may be encountering.
- Treat the consumer like any other employee, holding them to the same standards as other staff members in terms of punctuality and code of conduct policies, but with a little extra care and understanding.
- Promptly report any issues with the consumer to the OVR counselor for swift resolution.

I strongly encourage employers to explore the opportunities available for these consumers in your business. The experience is not only rewarding, but we have found that these employees are exceptionally dedicated and loyal. OVR's training programs have made a significant impact on our business at Delta Management, and I wholeheartedly recommend reaching out to OVR to see how these programs can align with your company's goals.

Navigating the latté love affair with balance and bliss

SAIPAN SIPS

By ROSEMARIE EMBILE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rosemarie Embile is a teacher at the Northern Marianas International School.

Let's spill the beans (pun intended!) on something brewing—my passionate affair with coffee lattés, my newfound favorite coffee. Although I still love and enjoy my typical americano and brewed coffee, I have developed a new fondness for lattés. Its smooth and creamy texture and comforting sweetness make it the perfect remedy for a stressful day. Whenever I feel overwhelmed, anxious, or want to enjoy a weekend with my husband, a warm and foamy latté is just what I need. However, unlike brewed or café americano, I can't have this coffee regularly.

As much as I love lattés, I have realized they, too, have a downside—they may not be the best option for weight watchers like me due to their high calorie and sugar content. While I don't want to discourage anyone from indulging in this delicious drink, I must acknowledge the potential pitfalls of consuming too much calories from regular lattes. I hope we can find a coffee latté on the island that is low in calories. However, moderation is key. Instead of completely giving up my beloved lattés, I have adopted a more balanced approach. I occasionally opt for lighter versions of my favorite drink or balance out the calories with more exercise.

Let's imagine we are in our cozy favorite café on Saipan, where searching for the perfect latté becomes an adventure. Picture the island's majestic mountains as you sit in one of the cafés. Alternatively, you could select a different café offering a breathtaking ocean view. In both cafés, you will find fellow coffee enthusiasts engrossed in conversation, sharing stories, and laughter. The sunny weather on Saipan is warm and brilliant. Sunlight shines through the windows, casting a glow on the café furniture and bathing the island in radiance. All these are perfect for a calm and tranquil weekend or to enjoy your day.

The baristas, always smiling and eager to serve, greet us warmly and make us feel right at home. They take time to understand our preferences and make the perfect latté just for us. We are grateful for the baristas' expertise and dedication and the warm and inviting environment they create.

Their menu offers a variety of latté flavors for a unique experience. The choices are as diverse as the island, from classic caramel lattés to island-special coconut coffee. I enjoy caramel latté mainly because I have a sweet tooth. I love how it enhances the taste of steamed milk and caramel's delicious, creamy, sweet flavor.

As we savor our lattés, the joy extends beyond the delightful taste. It's about creating memories, sharing laughter, and discovering new favorites together. The café becomes our sanctuary, where the world's worries fade away, replaced by the simple pleasure of a well-brewed latté.

So, as we search for the best latté on the island, we also discover the art of balance. It's not just about finding the perfect blend of coffee and milk; it's about savoring the experience without overindulging. Whether we choose to enjoy a guilt-free lighter version or add a stroll along Saipan's scenic shores, our latté journey becomes a harmonious dance of indulgence and well-being.

As we continue to explore the world of lattés in our favorite cafés on Saipan, we realize that the true magic lies not just in the cup but in the shared moments, the laughter, and the connection it brings. It's a reminder that life's simple pleasures, like a perfect latté in a cherished café, have the power to create lasting joy.

HOW

From page 8

The interviews take place in "soft rooms" with cozy love seats, child sized coloring tables and artwork on the walls. Their protocols emphasize free narratives—"Start at the beginning and go all the way to the end ..."—instead of interrogation style questions and interruptions for clarification. Their policy prohibits polygraph tests and starts with the assumption that the witness is being truthful.

Today, the FBI has a Child Victim Services program that supports children who are victimized or who witness federal crimes, and also trains local law enforcement in how to treat them properly. Their coordinators work to ensure that any interviews and interactions are tailored to minimize additional trauma and are appropriate for the child's developmental stage.

The FBI program has grown from three child and adolescent forensic interviewers in 2001 to 22 interviewers and three supervisors in 2023. The unit chief has conducted more than 10,000 interviews.

Polly's kidnapping also influenced changes outside of law enforcement. Suburban America was starting to feel unsafe, a trend that started before Polly Klaas and escalated after her death. "Stranger danger"—real and perceived—triggered a major shift in social behavior in the 1990s and beyond. Neighborhood parks and playgrounds began to see fewer kids. Families installed alarm systems or adopted a guard dog. Children were kept inside on sunny days, no longer allowed to walk a few blocks to the corner store or a friend's house. Staying home and playing video games felt like a safer alternative. The days of free range childhood were vanishing.

"This used to be a good little town," said a 12-year old girl who had acted with Polly in a local production of "Annie." "Now it's ... I don't know what." Whether she was parroting her parents or truly aware of this major shift, her sentiment reflected what people were feeling in Petaluma—and nationwide. As one local high schooler put it, "All the kids around here, they're scared to go out and play."

The day after Polly's memorial, in a suburb of St. Louis, a group of children stumbled upon the body of a slain 10 year old girl. Cassidy Senter was the second victim of a suspected child serial killer, and parents were terrified. They started patrolling neighborhood streets that had once felt safe. Kids were afraid. Parents were afraid. One 21 year old woman was afraid to take out the trash. "We're all in a quiet state of panic," said a mother of two. "I don't know how much more of this we can take."

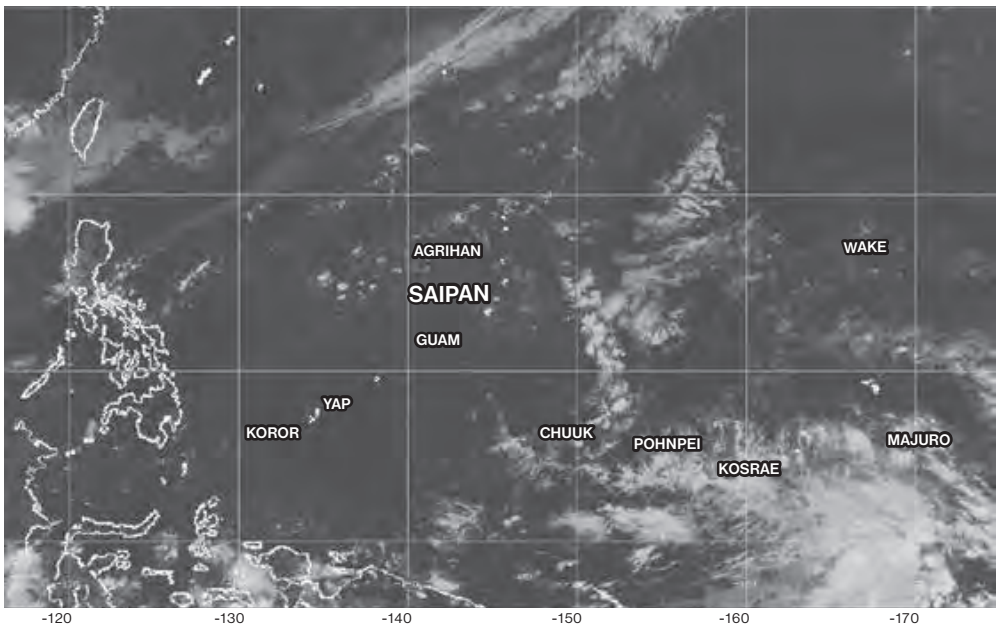
This atmosphere of public fear became an incubator for public policies that would change the nature of crime and punishment in America.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.
87 / 79°	87 / 79°	87 / 79°	87 / 79°	87 / 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:50 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Doppler radar shows the better shower coverage has been centered near Guam and Rota, with recent satellite imagery showing new development occurring east of Tinian and Saipan. Altimetry shows 4 to 6 feet. Ipan buoy shows 4 to 5 feet, and Tanapag buoy shows around 7 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	5:54 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:54 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Monday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:55 AM	9:16 PM	-
Friday	10:55 AM	10:14 PM	-
Saturday	11:55 AM	11:16 PM	-
Sunday	12:52 PM	-	-
Monday	-	12:19 AM	1:44 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Windy	59° / 54°
Beijing	Rain	63° / 39°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	84° / 75°
Honolulu	Rain	55° / 46°
London	Cloudy	61° / 52°
Los Angeles	Sunny	93° / 64°
Manila	Mostly Sunny	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	72° / 52°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
New York	Sunny	69° / 50°
Osaka	Rain	72° / 63°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	64° / 48°
Busan	Rain	73° / 57°
Rome	Showers	73° / 61°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	72° / 59°
San Francisco	Sunny	82° / 54°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	73° / 46°
Tokyo	Rain	64° / 61°
Washington, DC	Sunny	70° / 47°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
4:11 AM	Low Tide	-0.22
11:21 AM	High Tide	1.72
4:39 PM	Low Tide	1.25
9:19 PM	High Tide	1.68

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2023

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:20PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:20AM	6:30AM	1, 4, 5, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:50AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:05PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:35PM	2:20AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

FOR BELT AND ROAD PROJECTS

China's Xi promises more market openness, new investments

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese President Xi Jinping promised greater access to China's market for international firms and new financing exceeding $100 billion for other developing economies as he opened a forum Wednesday on his signature Belt and Road infrastructure policy.

The initiative has built power plants, roads, railroads and ports around the world and deepened China's relations with Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Mideast. But the massive loans that funded the projects have burdened poorer countries with heavy debts, in some cases leading to China taking control of those assets.

At the forum's opening ceremony at the cavernous Great Hall of the People, Xi promised two Chinese-backed development banks—the China Development Bank and the Export–Import Bank of China—will each set 350 billion yuan ($47.9 billion) financing windows, while an additional 80 billion yuan ($11 billion) will be injected into the Silk Road Fund to support BRI projects.

AP

Chinese President Xi Jinping waves after delivering his opening speech for the Belt and Road Forum at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023.

"We will comprehensively remove restrictions on foreign investment access in the manufacturing sector," Xi said, adding that China would further open up "cross-border trade and investment in services and expand market access for digital products," as well as carry out reforms of state-owned enterprises and in sectors such as the digital economy, intellectual property rights and government procurement.

Representatives from more than 130 mostly developing countries are attending the forum, including at least 20 heads of state and government. Russian President Vladimir Putin is attending, in a sign of China's economic and diplomatic support for Moscow amid the isolation brought by its war in Ukraine.

Addressing the forum right after Xi, Putin praised BRI as leading to a "fairer, multipolar world," according to a translation of his speech by state broadcaster CGTN.

On Tuesday, Putin met with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, who is the sole government leader attending from the European Union. Their meeting was a rare instance of the Russian president meeting a European leader since the start of Russia's war in Ukraine in February 2022.

Also in attendance are the presidents of Indonesia, Argentina, Kazakstan, Sri Lanka, Kenya among other countries, as well as U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres, who has in the past praised the Chinese policy as bringing development to neglected areas. Most Western European countries and U.S. allies sent lower level or former officials to the forum.

China became a major financer of development projects under BRI, on par with the World Bank. The Chinese government says the initiative has launched more than 3,000 projects and "galvanized" nearly $1 trillion in investment.

It has also attracted criticism from the U.S., India and others that China was engaging in "debt trap" diplomacy: Making loans Beijing knew governments would default on, allowing Chinese interests to take control of the assets. An oft-cited example is a Sri Lankan port that the government ended up leasing to a Chinese company for 99 years.

The initiative now looks to become smaller and greener after a decade of big projects that boosted trade but left big debts and raised environmental concerns.

IRS plans limited rollout of free e-file tax return system

NEW YORK (AP)—A former FTX executive and onetime billionaire testified against the cryptocurrency exchange's founder, Sam Bankman-Fried, on Monday at his fraud trial, saying his admiration for him faded as he watched excessive spending on investments, property and celebrities precede a $13 billion shortfall that left him feeling "blindsided and horrified."

Nishad Singh, the former head of engineering at FTX, was part of Bankman-Fried's trusted inner circle before the cryptocurrency empire collapsed last November. Bankman-Fried was arrested in the Bahamas a month later. Singh pleaded guilty to fraud charges and agreed to testify against the man he'd known since high school.

Singh told a Manhattan federal court jury that he "felt really betrayed" when he learned in a private conversation with Bankman-Fried on the balcony of their penthouse apartment in September 2022 that there was not sufficient assets to cover $13 billion that had been spent largely on investments, properties, advertising and donations.

"I was blindsided and horrified," he said, adding that it seemed five years of hard work was wasted and that "something that I thought was a beautiful source for good had turned out to be so evil."

At another point, Singh said that the spending was "too large or didn't make sense" and "it all reeked of excess and flashiness."

Singh said he felt suicidal for several days about the crimes and the collapse of FTX.

Bankman-Fried, 31, has been jailed since August, when a judge concluded that he'd tried to influence potential trial witnesses and revoked the $250 million personal recognizance bond that had permitted him to live with his parents in Palo Alto, California, after his December extradition from the Bahamas. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

As the trial entered its third week, Singh became the third former member of the inner circle to testify against Bankman-Fried after reaching a cooperation deal in a bid for leniency at sentencing.

Singh, who grew up in the San Francisco area, said he joined Alameda Research in 2017—the year it was founded—and considered Bankman-Fried to be a "formidable character" who he'd always found intimidating.

"So I had a lot of admiration and respect for him," he said. "Over time, a lot of that eroded. And I grew distrustful."

Singh, who joined FTX after its 2019 founding, cited Bankman-Fried's "excessive" spending as a catalyst for his change in attitude in 2022 as he watched Bankman-Fried's opulent tendencies grow with the purchase of luxury properties and his billion dollar partnership with a California investment firm with connections to A-list celebrities like Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and the actor Leonardo DiCaprio.

He said $205 million was spent to rename the Miami venue where the Miami Heat played its home games after FTX and another $150 million was spent on a Major League Baseball endorsement, along with millions more on advertising featuring star quarterback Tom Brady and comedian Larry David.

Singh said he had little influence over Bankman-Fried. He cited the moment when Bankman-Fried purchased a luxury residence in the Bahamas that was "super ostentatious."

Singh said he expressed his discomfort with the purchase, but Bankman-Fried said he'd pay "$100 million for the drama to just go away, which I took as a sign that I should shut up and we should just move forward with this."

Meanwhile, Judge Lewis A. Kaplan denied a request by Bankman-Fried lawyers that they be allowed to give their client medication to help with his confrontation.

"I can't have lawyers coming in and giving drugs to people on trial because somebody says they need it. I just can't do it," Kaplan said.

Electrical grids aren't keeping up with the green energy push

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Stalled spending on electrical grids worldwide is slowing the rollout of renewable energy and could put efforts to limit climate change at risk if millions of miles of power lines are not added or refurbished in the next few years, the International Energy Agency said.

The Paris-based organization said in the report Tuesday that the capacity to connect to and transmit electricity is not keeping pace with the rapid growth of clean energy technologies such as solar and wind power, electric cars and heat pumps being deployed to move away from fossil fuels.

IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol told The Associated Press in an interview that there is a long line of renewable projects waiting for the green light to connect to the grid. The stalled projects could generate 1,500 gigawatts of power, or five times the amount of solar and wind capacity that was added worldwide last year, he said.

"It's like you are manufacturing a very efficient, very speedy, very handsome car—but you forget to build the roads for it," Birol said.

If spending on grids stayed at current levels, the chance of holding the global increase in average temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels—the goal set by the 2015 Paris climate accords—"is going to be diminished substantially," he said.

The IEA assessment of electricity grids around the globe found that achieving the climate goals set by the world's governments would require adding or refurbishing 80 million kilometers (50 million miles) of power lines by 2040—an amount equal to the existing global grid in less than two decades.

Annual investment has been stagnant but needs to double to more than $600 billion a year by 2030, the agency said.

It's not uncommon for a single high-voltage overhead power line to take five to 13 years to get approved through bureaucracy in advanced economies, while lead times are significantly shorter in China and India, according to the IEA.

Nation

Biden will be plunging into Middle East turmoil on visit to Israel

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden will touch down in Israel on Wednesday for a diplomatic scramble to prevent the war with Hamas from spiraling into an even larger conflict, a challenge that became more difficult as outrage swept through the Middle East over an explosion that killed hundreds in a Gaza Strip hospital.

Biden was originally scheduled to visit Jordan as well, but his meetings with Arab leaders were called off as he was leaving Washington, costing him an opportunity for the face-to-face conversations that he views as crucial for navigating this fraught moment.

Now Biden's only stop will be Israel, where he's expected to huddle with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Israel has been preparing for a potential ground invasion of Gaza in response to Hamas' attacks on Oct. 7, which killed 1,400 Israelis.

John Kirby, a White House national security spokesman, told reporters aboard Air Force One that Biden "wants to get a sense from the Israelis on the situation on the ground" and will "ask some tough questions."

"He'll be asking them as a friend," Kirby added.

The president also planned to meet Israeli first responders and the families of victims killed and hostages taken when Hamas made its incursion into Israel.

Roughly 2,800 Palestinians have been reported killed by Israeli strikes in Gaza. Another 1,200 people are believed to be buried under the rubble, alive or dead, health authorities said.

Those numbers predate the explosion at the Al-Ahli hospital on Tuesday. No clear cause has been established for the blast.

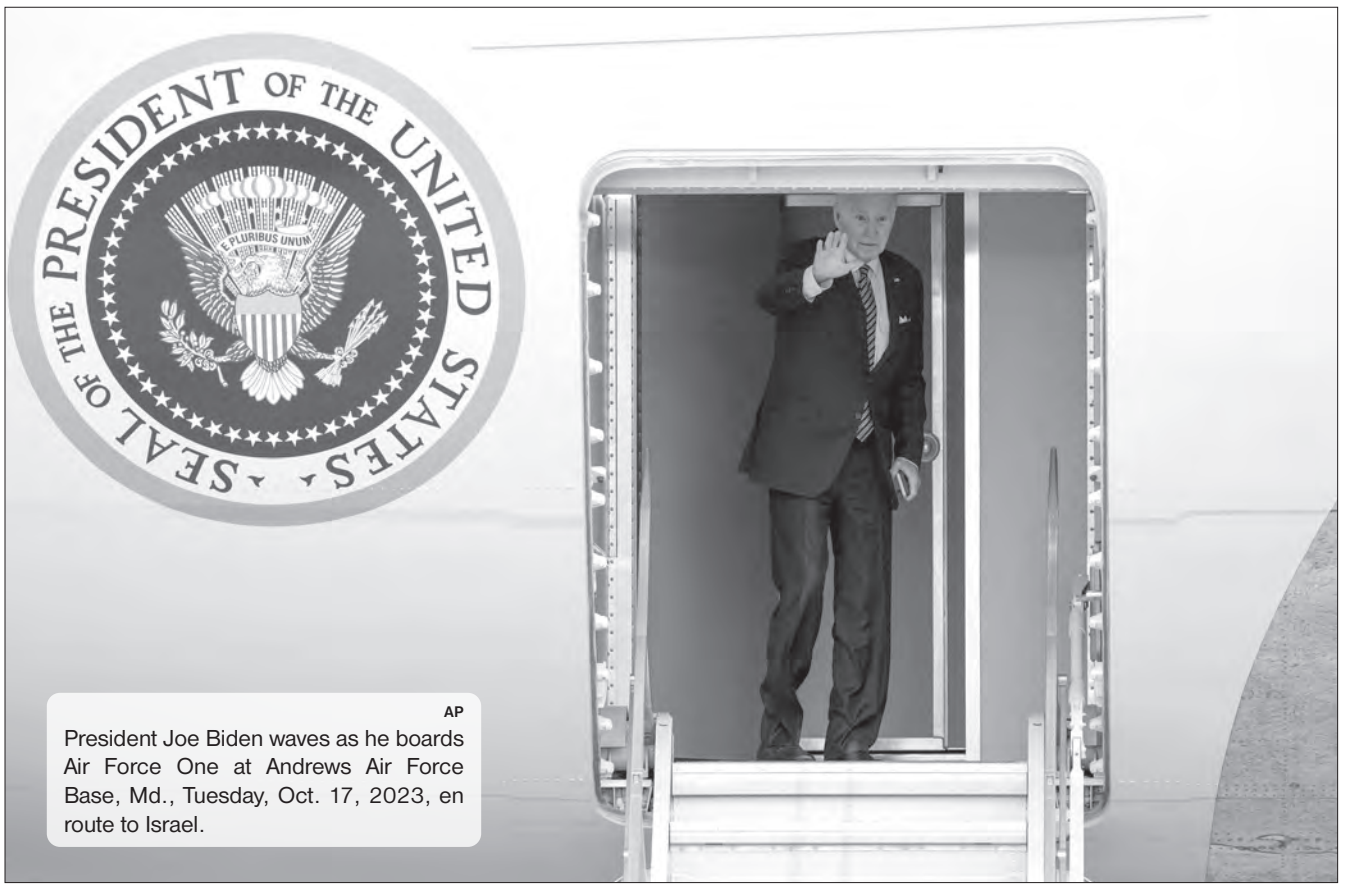
The Hamas-run Gaza Health Ministry said an Israeli airstrike caused the destruction. The Israeli military denied involvement and blamed a misfired rocket from the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, another militant group. However, that organization also rejected responsibility.

Biden said in a statement that he was "outraged and deeply saddened by the explosion at the Al Ahli Arab hospital in Gaza, and the terrible loss of life that resulted." He also said he "directed my national security team to continue gathering information about what exactly happened."

Protests swept through the region after the deaths at the hospital, which had been treating wounded Palestinians and sheltering many more who were seeking a refuge from the fighting.

Hundreds of Palestinians flooded the streets of major West Bank cities including Ramallah. More people joined protests that erupted in Beirut, Lebanon and Amman, Jordan, where an angry crowd gathered outside the Israeli Embassy.

Outrage over the hospital explosion scuttled Biden's plans to visit Jordan, where King Abdullah II had planned to host meetings with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi. But Abbas withdrew in protest, and the summit was subsequently canceled outright.



AP

President Joe Biden waves as he boards Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023, en route to Israel.

ACROSS THE NATION

Suspect in Holloway case expected to enter plea in extortion charge

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—The chief suspect in Natalee Holloway's 2005 disappearance is scheduled to appear in court Wednesday morning, where he is expected to plead guilty to trying to extort money from her mother and provide new information about what happened to the missing teen. Joran van der Sloot, 36, charged with extortion and wire fraud, is scheduled to go before a federal judge in Birmingham, Alabama, for a plea and sentencing hearing. Attorney John Q. Kelly, who represented Holloway's mother during the alleged extortion attempt, said the plea deal was contingent on van der Sloot providing details about what happened to Holloway. Van der Sloot is not charged in Holloway's death. He is charged with trying to extort $250,000 from Holloway's mother, Beth Holloway, in 2010 to reveal the location of her daughter's remains.

Remains of at least 189 people removed from Colorado funeral home

DENVER (AP)—The remains of at least 189 people have been removed from a Colorado funeral home, up from an initial estimate of about 115 when the decaying and improperly stored bodies were discovered two weeks ago, officials said Tuesday. The remains were found by authorities responding to a report of an "abhorrent smell" inside a decrepit building at the Return to Nature Funeral Home in the small town of Penrose, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) south of Denver. All the remains were removed from the site as of Oct. 13, but officials said the numbers could change again as the identification process continues. The updated count comes as families who did business with the funeral home grow increasingly concerned about what happened to their deceased loved ones. Local officials said they will begin notifying family members in the coming days as the remains are identified. There is no timeline to complete the work, which began last week with help from an FBI team that gets deployed to mass casualty events like airline crashes. Fremont County Coroner Randy Keller said he wanted to provide accurate information to families "to prevent further victimization as they continue to grieve."

Report: Young driver fatality rates have fallen sharply in the US

NEW YORK (AP)—Crash and fatality rates among drivers under 21 have fallen dramatically in the U.S. during the past 20 years, a new report says, while noting young drivers are still the riskiest group behind the wheel. Using data from 2002-2021, a nonprofit group of state highway safety offices says in the report made public Wednesday that fatal crashes involving a young driver fell by 38%, while deaths of young drivers dropped even more, by about 45%. For drivers 21 and older, fatal crashes rose 8% and deaths rose 11%. The report from the Governors Highway Safety Association acknowledges that young people are driving less than they were 20 years ago, but highlights several other reasons for the improvement, while offering recommendations for building on them. State programs that phase in driving privileges were at the top of the list. These programs, called graduated drivers license laws, often restrict or ban certain activities, such as driving at night or with peers, for teens. The GHSA suggests strengthening those programs and even expanding them to cover drivers 18 to 20 years old, like Maryland and New Jersey do.

GOP's Jordan will try again to become House speaker

WASHINGTON (AP)—Having lost the first vote to become House speaker, Rep. Jim Jordan will try again on a decisive second ballot that will test whether the hard-edged ally of Donald Trump can win over the holdouts or if his bid for the gavel is collapsing, denied by detractors.

Ahead of Wednesday morning's voting, Jordan made an unexpected plea for party unity, the combative Judiciary Committee chairman telling his colleagues on social media, "we must stop attacking each other and come together."

But a surprisingly large and politically diverse group of 20 Republicans rejected Jordan's nomination, many resisting the hardball tactics enforcing support, and viewing the Ohio congressman as too extreme for the powerful position of House speaker, second in line to the presidency.

Additional voting Tuesday was postponed as the House hit a standstill, stuck while Jordan worked to shore up backing from Republican colleagues for the job to replace the ousted Kevin McCarthy.

"We're going to keep working," Jordan said late Tuesday at the Capitol.

It's been two weeks of angry Republican infighting since McCarthy's sudden removal by hard-liners, who are now within reach of a central seat of U.S. power. The vote for House speaker, once a formality in Congress, has devolved into another bitter showdown for the gavel.

The tally, with 200 Republicans voting for Jordan and 212 for the Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York, left no candidate with a clear majority, as the 20 Republicans voted for someone else. With Republicans in majority control 221-212, Jordan must pick up most of his GOP foes to win.

Jeffries swiftly intervened, declaring it was time for Republicans to partner with Democrats to reopen the House — in what would be an extraordinary if not unprecedented moment in congressional history.

Bipartisan groups of lawmakers have been floating ways to operate the House by giving greater power to the interim speaker, Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., or another temporary speaker. The House had never ousted its speaker before McCarthy, and the lawmakers are in rarely tested terrain.

"The Republicans are unable to function right now," said Jeffries. He said talks would "accelerate" between Democrats and Republicans on alternative plans.

Late Tuesday, the novel concept was gaining favor with a pair of surprising high-profile Republicans: Newt Gingrich, the former Republican speaker, said while he likes Jordan, he has "no faith" the nominee can get much beyond the 200 votes he won in the first vote.

"We can't sit around and suck our thumbs and hope the world will wait until the House Republicans get their act together," Gingrich told Fox News' Sean Hannity on his show.

John Boehner, another former GOP speaker, reposted Gingrich's views saying, "I agree," on social media.

The two men have deep experience with the subject. Both were chased to early retirement by threats of ouster from right-flank insurgents like those who toppled McCarthy.

But with public pressure bearing down on lawmakers from Trump's allies, including Hannity, it's unclear how long the holdouts against Jordan can last. Already, some lawmakers said their first vote was merely a protest, and they would be with Jordan on next rounds.

"Jim Jordan will be a great speaker," the former president said outside a courthouse in Manhattan, where he is facing business fraud charges. "I think he's going to have the votes soon, if not today, over the next day or two."

Asia

India's Supreme Court refuses to legalize same-sex marriage

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's top court on Tuesday refused to legalize same-sex marriages, passing the responsibility back to Parliament in a ruling that disappointed campaigners for LGBTQ+ rights in the world's most populous country.

» Says it's up to Parliament

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud also urged the government to uphold the rights of the queer community and end discrimination against them.

Earlier this year, the five-judge bench heard 21 petitions that sought to legalize same-sex marriage.

Chandrachud said there were degrees of agreement and disagreement among the justices "on how far we have to go" on same-sex marriages, but the judges unanimously agreed that the court can't grant LGBTQ+ people the right to marry because that is a legislative function.

"This court can't make law. It can only interpret it and give effect to it," the chief justice said, reiterating that it was up to Parliament to decide whether it could expand marriage laws to include queer unions.

One of the petitioners, Mario da Penha, said it was "a day to be disappointed, but not to lose hope."

"There's been tremendous work that has gone into these petitions, and many hopes and dreams of the queer community attached to them—to lead lives that most other Indians take for granted. The fact that the dream could not come to fruition today is a disappointment for all of us," he said.

He added that it wasn't yet clear if the court had set a mandate or timeline for Parliament to act.

"Without that mandate, there is no pressure on Parliament to enact any legislation," he said.

"There are queer couples today that are already families and in relationships, and are pillars of society. That they are not afforded the dignity and rights that they are due is deeply disappointing," said Karuna Nundy, one of the lawyers representing the petitioners.

Legal rights for LGBTQ+ people in India have been expanding over the past decade, mostly as a result of the Supreme Court's intervention.

In 2018, the top court struck down a colonial-era law that had made gay sex punishable by up to 10 years in prison and expanded constitutional rights for the gay community.

The decision was seen as a historic victory for LGBTQ+ rights, with one judge saying it would "pave the way for a better future."

Despite this progress, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government resisted the legal recognition of same-sex marriage and rejected several petitions in favor.

During the hearings, the government argued that a marriage is only between a biological male and a biological woman, adding that same-sex marriages went against religious values and that the petitions reflected only "urban elitist views." Religious groups too had opposed same-sex unions, saying they went against Indian culture.

Adish Aggarwala, the president of the Supreme Court bar association, said the court had done the right thing by recognizing that this was a job for Parliament, an argument the government also made during the hearings.

Lawyers for the petitioners argued that marriage is between two people, not just a man and woman. They said concepts of marriage have gradually changed with time and laws should acknowledge that.

By not recognizing such unions, the government was depriving same-sex couples of their right to equality enshrined in the constitution and rights enjoyed by married heterosexual couples, from adoption and medical insurance to pensions and inheritance, they argued.

"This court needs to push society to acknowledge same-sex marriage," one of the lawyers said.

Petitioners were hopeful that the Supreme Court could challenge the government's position.

Some of the justices urged the state to make sure queer couples don't face harassment or discrimination in accessing basic needs, like opening a joint bank account. They called for steps to raise awareness among the public about queer identity, establish hotlines and safe houses available for those in the queer community who are facing violence.

Pentagon releases footage of hundreds of 'highly concerning' aircraft intercepts by Chinese planes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon has released footage of some of the more than 180 intercepts of U.S. warplanes by Chinese aircraft that have occurred in the last two years—more than the total amount over the previous decade and part of a trend U.S. military officials called concerning.

The photos and video were released in advance of a soon-to-be issued annual report by the Pentagon on the China's military power and the security threats it may pose to partners in the Indo-Pacific.

The Pentagon has tried for years to posture itself to be ready for a potential conflict with China over Taiwan even as it now finds itself supporting allies in two hot wars, Ukraine in Europe and Israel in the Middle East.

Admiral John Acquilino, head of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, said at a Pentagon press briefing Tuesday that despite the U.S. surging carrier strike groups and amphibious ships to support Israel, and now almost 20 months of war in Ukraine, the command has what it needs to deter China.

"I haven't had one piece of equipment or force structure depart" his command, he said, referring to ships, aircraft and military units. "We have been taking a number of steps to strengthen our commitment to the region, strengthen our deterrence in the region and we will continue to do that."

The officials said the Chinese flights were risky and aggressive in nature, but stopped short of calling most of them unsafe—a specific term that is used only in the most egregious cases. Still the officials said it was important to release the footage and call out the behavior because they said it was part of a larger trend of regional intimidation by China that could accidentally lead to conflict.

"All of these examples we've released today underscore the coercive intent of (China) by engaging in behaviors particularly in international airspace," said Ely Ratner, assistant secretary of defense for Indo-Pacific security affairs. "The bottom line is that in many cases, this type of operational behavior can cause active and dangerous accidents" and can lead inadvertently to conflict, Ratner said.

World

AFTER BLAST KILLS HUNDREDS AT HOSPITAL

Hamas, Israel trade blame as rage spreads in region

AP

Wounded Palestinians sit in al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City, central Gaza Strip, after arriving from al-Ahli hospital following an explosion there, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023.

KHAN YOUNIS, Gaza Strip (AP)—A massive blast rocked a Gaza City hospital packed with wounded and other Palestinians seeking shelter Tuesday, killing hundreds of people, the Hamas-run Health Ministry said. Hamas blamed an Israeli airstrike, while the Israeli military blamed a rocket misfired by other Palestinian militants.

At least 500 people were killed, the ministry said.

As rage spread through the region because of the hospital carnage, and with President Joe Biden heading to the Mideast in hopes of stopping the war from spreading, Jordan's foreign minister said his country canceled a regional summit scheduled for Wednesday in Amman, where Biden was to meet with Jordan's King Abdullah II, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi.

The war between Israel and Hamas was "pushing the region to the brink," Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi told state-run television. He said Jordan would host the summit only when everyone had agreed its purpose would be to "stop the war, respect the humanity of the Palestinians and deliver the aid they deserve."

Biden will now visit only Israel, a White House official said.

The explosion at the al-Ahli Hospital left gruesome scenes. Video that The Associated Press confirmed was from the hospital showed fire engulfing the building and the hospital grounds strewn with torn bodies, many of them young children. The grass around them was strewn with blankets, school backpacks and other belongings.

The bloodshed unfolded as the U.S. tried to convince Israel to allow the delivery of supplies to desperate civilians, aid groups and hospitals in the tiny Gaza Strip, which has been under a complete siege since Hamas' deadly rampage in southern Israel last week. Hundreds of thousands of increasingly desperate people were searching for bread and water.

Hamas called Tuesday's hospital blast "a horrific massacre," saying it was caused by an Israeli strike.

Ukraine claims major strike on Russian airfields and thanks US for providing long-range missiles

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine on Tuesday claimed to have carried out one of the most destructive attacks on Russian air assets since the beginning of the war, with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy saying the assault used longer-range ballistic missiles donated by the United States.

Zelenskyy's announcement came hours after a U.S. official revealed that the longer-range ballistic missiles sought for months by Kyiv and promised by President Joe Biden had been delivered quietly and are in battlefield use.

Ukraine's Special Operations Forces claimed it destroyed nine Russian helicopters at two airfields in Russia-occupied regions in a nighttime attack on targets in eastern and southern Ukraine.

It also hit military equipment, an air-defense system, ammunition warehouses and runways, a statement said. Dozens of Russian military personnel were injured in the attack codenamed Operation Dragonfly, it said.

Several U.S. officials said that Washington provided Ukraine with a small number of the Army Tactical Missile System, known as ATACMS, making good on a promise made by Biden last month.

Zelenskyy offered "special thanks" to the United States for sending the ATACMS. "Our agreements with President Biden are being implemented," Zelenskyy said in his usual evening address to the nation, saying the ATACMS "have proven themselves."

The weapons development piles pressure on the Kremlin as both sides look for battlefield advantages ahead of winter and what is shaping up as a protracted war of attrition.

While some versions of the missiles can go as far as about 180 miles (about 300 kilometers), the ones sent to Ukraine have a shorter range and carry cluster munitions, which, when fired, open in the air, releasing hundreds of bomblets rather than a single warhead. According to a U.S. official, the ones delivered to Ukraine have a maximum range of a bit more than 100 miles (roughly 160 kilometers).

Environment

FOLLOWING RELEASE OF TREATED RADIOACTIVE WATER

Japan criticizes Russia for ban on its seafood

TOKYO (AP)—Japan criticized Russia's announcement that it's joining China in banning the imports of Japanese seafood in response to the release of treated radioactive wastewater from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant.

Russia said it will start implementing import restrictions on Japanese seafood on Monday, nearly two months after the tsunami-wrecked Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant started releasing treated and diluted radioactive wastewater into the ocean.

The wastewater discharges, which are expected to continue for decades, have been strongly opposed by fishing groups and neighboring countries including South Korea, where hundreds of people have protested. China immediately banned all imports of Japanese seafood the day the release began in August, badly hurting Japanese seafood producers and exporters.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry said its senior officials notified the Russian Embassy in Tokyo that Japan has been providing transparent and scientific explanations about safety of the treated water release from the Fukushima plant and Japanese seafood. The ministry also said the Japanese side "sincerely and politely" responded to Russia's abrupt request for a dialogue last week on the issue by submitting documents.

The ministry called Moscow's restrictions "unjust" and said they go counter to the global move toward easing or lifting of import restrictions on Japanese food.

"The decision by the Russian side is extremely regrettable, and we strongly demand its withdrawal," the ministry said. "Japan continues to seek actions based on science."

The plant's first wastewater release began Aug. 24 and ended Sept. 11. During that release, TEPCO said it discharged 7,800 tons of treated water from 10 tanks. In the second discharge that began Oct. 5, TEPCO plans to release another 7,800 tons of treated water into the Pacific Ocean over 17 days.

The International Atomic Energy Agency has reviewed the safety of the wastewater release and concluded that if carried out as planned, it would have a negligible impact on the environment, marine life and human health.

A team of IAEA experts from China, South Korea and Canada is set to conduct sampling of seawater and marine life at and near the plant this week.

Japan's government has set up a relief fund to help find new markets and reduce the impact of China's seafood ban. Measures also include the temporary purchase, freezing and storage of seafood and promotion of seafood sales at home.

TEPCO and the government say discharging the water into the sea is unavoidable because the tanks will reach capacity early next year and space at the plant will be needed for its decommissioning, which is expected to take decades.

They say the water is treated to reduce radioactive materials to safe levels, and then is diluted with seawater by hundreds of times to make it much safer than international standards.

KYODO NEWS VIA AP, FILE

This aerial view shows the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Fukushima, northern Japan, on Aug. 24, 2023, shortly after its operator Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings TEPCO began releasing its first batch of treated radioactive water into the Pacific Ocean. Japan's wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant said it began releasing a second batch of treated radioactive wastewater into the sea on Thursday, Oct 5, 2023, after the first round of discharges ended smoothly.

Greta Thunberg detained at a protest to disrupt forum for oil executives

LONDON (AP)—Greta Thunberg was detained by British police on Tuesday alongside other climate activists who gathered outside a central London hotel to disrupt a major oil and gas industry conference.

Thunberg was among dozens of protesters who chanted "oily money out" and sought to block access to the luxury InterContinental Hotel on Park Lane, which is hosting the Energy Intelligence Forum. The conference features speakers including the chief executives of Shell, Saudi Arabia's Aramco and Norway's Equinor, as well as the U.K.'s energy security minister.

An Associated Press photographer saw officers speaking with Thunberg before leading her away and taking her into a police vehicle.

Protesters attempted to block access to the conference venue by sitting on the sidewalk by the entrance. They held aloft banners and chanted "oily money out" and "cancel the conference," while some lit yellow and pink smoke flares.

Two Greenpeace activists abseiled down from the roof of the hotel to unfurl a giant banner reading "Make Big Oil Pay."

London's Metropolitan Police said a total of 29 people were arrested at Tuesday's protests, including six on suspicion of obstructing a highway and 21 others for breaching protest conditions. One person was detained on suspicion of criminal damage and a further for breaching court bail conditions. All were in custody.

Police said they engaged in conversations with the protesters on allowing people to access the venue safely and prevent serious disruption to the hotel and guests, but some of the activists refused to move from the road.

No charges have been issued yet.

'We were linking arms when the police forced their way in and singled out Greta. She was dragged down the street at speed to a police van where they refused to say where she was being taken," said Joanna Warrington, an organizer with Fossil Free London who was at the demonstration.

The protesters accuse fossil fuel companies of deliberately slowing the global energy transition to renewables in order to make more profit.

They also oppose the British government's recent approval of drilling for oil in the North Sea, off the Scottish coast. U.K. authorities have defended the move, saying it is necessary for the country's energy security.

"The world is drowning in fossil fuels. Our hopes and dreams and lives are being washed away by a flood of greenwashing and lies," Thunberg told reporters before she was detained. "It has been clear for decades that the fossil fuel industries were well aware of the consequences of their business models, and yet they have done nothing."

"We cannot let this continue. The elite of the oil and money conference, they have no intention of transition," she added. "We have no other option but to put our bodies outside this conference and to physically disrupt. And we have to do that every time, we have to continue showing them that they are not going to get away with this."

Police said those detained were taken into custody and that officers remained on site.

Environmental groups say they will continue to protest throughout the planned forum, which is expected to last three days.

Thunberg inspired a global youth movement demanding stronger efforts to fight climate change after staging weekly protests outside the Swedish Parliament starting in 2018. She was recently fined by a Swedish court for disobeying police during an environmental protest in Sweden.

KIN CHEUNG

Environmental activist Greta Thunberg is taken away by police officers during the Oily Money Out protest outside the Intercontinental Hostel, in London, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023.

Maryland medical waste incinerator to pay $1.75M fine for exposing public to biohazardous material

BALTIMORE (AP)—A medical waste processing company has pleaded guilty to dozens of environment-related charges and agreed to pay $1.75 million in fines after state prosecutors in Maryland accused a south Baltimore incineration plant owned by the firm of exposing the public to biohazardous material.

The waste comes from hospitals, laboratories and other medical settings. It's supposed to be burned into ash before being transported to landfills, a process that prevents disease transmission, state officials said Tuesday at a news conference announcing the settlement agreement involving the nation's largest medical waste incinerator.

The fine incurred by Curtis Bay Energy is among the highest environmental penalties imposed in Maryland's history. It includes funding for pollution mitigation efforts in south Baltimore's Curtis Bay neighborhood—a community that has long suffered from environmental degradation thanks to a concentration of industrial facilities situated along the Patapsco River.

The company, which changed ownership after the Maryland Attorney General's Office launched its investigation in 2019, repeatedly overloaded its incinerators and failed to sufficiently burn medical waste before sending it to landfills, according to prosecutors. Witnesses provided photographs from the site showing substantial amounts of unburned medical waste, including surgical gloves, medical supplies and bedding, according to court documents.

On one occasion, investigators followed a load of waste headed for a landfill in Virginia and watched as it "leaked fluid the entire trip and covered the agents' cars and windshields with an unknown substance," prosecutors wrote.

"The persistent, improper treatment of special medical waste created a clear and obvious threat to public health," said Maryland Attorney General Anthony Brown, noting that the violations began before the COVID-19 pandemic and continued until the company realized it was under investigation in 2020. "It was a crime."

Kelly Love, a spokesperson for Curtis Bay Energy, said the company "has fully cooperated with the state of Maryland's investigation into past violations committed by employees under prior ownership and management."

Life & Style

‘Revealing separation from Will Smith is a weight off my shoulders’

NEW YORK (AP)—Jada Pinkett Smith is feeling free these days. She’s no longer hiding that she’s been separated from megastar husband Will Smith for seven years.

“It’s a weight off my shoulders, honestly,” said Pinkett Smith whose new memoir, “Worthy,” is out now. “Ever since the Oscars, it’s so interesting how such an intense event can bring you closer together, and I would say that after that, we really dove in and dug in and got to this beautiful place we are now.”

The actor, who first revealed the bombshell news to NBC’s Hoda Kotb last week, details her much-gossiped about marriage throughout the biography. Through the years, the couple has faced rumors—of having an open marriage, a swinging lifestyle and questions about their sexual orientations—all while wearing smiles, seemingly portraying a picture-perfect life.

The daytime Emmy award winner briefly thought about scrapping the project; she started writing the 400-plus page book, co-written with Mim Eichler Rivas, at the top of 2022. But after Will infamously slapped Chris Rock in real time during the Oscars over a joke about her shaved head, Pinkett Smith wondered if writing a book was the right choice.

Smith

“The only time I reconsidered possibly was after the Oscars…because I was like I can’t write a book and not talk about this piece,” she told The Associated Press, admitting that she felt like the scapegoat for Will’s actions. “It took me a while to figure that out.”

While the Smiths’ marriage dynamic may still be confusing to some—they’re technically still married but have lived separate lives for years with divorce not an option—the “Collateral” actress says they’re working toward resolution.

“We love each other…we are figuring out right now as we speak, what that looks like for us. But there’s no being separated. There’s no, ‘we’re going to get divorced,’” she said. “I’m not giving up on that dude. And he’s not giving up on me… So, let’s just stop and let’s get to this deep healing and figure this out.”

With talent and serendipitous timing, the Baltimore native headed to Hollywood in the early ‘90s during a peak period where the industry was welcoming in young, Black actors and creatives. She eventually landed a role on “A Different World,” the “The Cosby Show”-spinoff which inspired a generation of young African Americans to pursue college educations, particularly at historically Black colleges and universities. She went on to star in films like “Menace II Society,” “Jason’s Lyric,” “Set It Off,” “The Nutty Professor” and in “The Matrix” franchise.

Pinkett Smith says while her husband had aspirations to become a global, superstar actor, she didn’t share those same dreams which caused friction. While she considered how revealing intimate details to the world would further affect their family, it’s her story to tell—”before Jada Pinkett Smith, there was Jada Pinkett,” she notes.

Michelle Yeoh elected to be an IOC member

MUMBAI, India (AP)—Oscar-winning actor Michelle Yeoh was elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee on Tuesday despite some “no” votes from her new colleagues.

Eight new IOC members were voted in to make a total of 107 drawn from royal families, sports officials, current and former athletes, and leaders from politics and industry.

After being summoned to the lectern by Princess Nora of Liechtenstein, the longest serving IOC member at 39 years, Yeoh read the 104-word oath while holding a corner of the Olympic flag—white with five colored rings.

“I promise to fight against all forms of discrimination and dedicate myself in all circumstances to promote the interests of the International Olympic Committee and Olympic Movement,” Yeoh said to complete the oath.

Like the other new recruits, Yeoh was presented with a golden medallion by IOC president Thomas Bach.

Member duties at annual IOC meetings include approving recommended candidates as future Olympic hosts. In Paris next year, they could also be asked to change Olympic rules to allow Bach to seek a third term as president in 2025 beyond the current 12-year limit.

IN EXCERPTS FROM UPCOMING MEMOIR

Britney Spears writes of abortion while dating Justin Timberlake

Britney Spears wrote that she had an abortion while dating Justin Timberlake more than 20 years ago, according to a peek inside her hotly anticipated memoir.

"If it had been left up to me alone, I never would have done it," she writes of the procedure, according to the excerpt from "The Woman in Me" published Tuesday in People magazine. "And yet Justin was so sure that he didn't want to be a father."

The pregnancy "was a surprise, but for me, it wasn't a tragedy," she wrote in the excerpt, saying that she had wanted to start a family with Timberlake—it was just earlier than expected.

"But Justin definitely wasn't happy about the pregnancy. He said we weren't ready to have a baby in our lives, that we were way too young," she wrote. The couple broke up in 2002. It's unclear when the pregnancy happened.

AP

Britney Spears, left, and Justin Timberlake arrive at the 28th Annual American Music Awards in Los Angeles on Jan. 8, 2001. Spears’ memoir “The Woman in Me” releases Oct. 24.

Representatives for Spears declined to offer further comment. Representatives for Timberlake did not respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press. The AP has not been able to independently review a copy of the "The Woman in Me" yet.

Spears, a prolific user of social media, has not posted to Instagram or X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, since the People stories were published.

In the excerpt published in People, she characterized the abortion as "one of the most agonizing things I have ever experienced in my life."

Spears' long-awaited memoir will be published Oct. 24, just months after her divorce from Sam Asghari was announced and promising to shed light on the 41-year-old's tumultuous decades in the spotlight.

"NO ONE KNOWS WHAT I REALLY THOUGHT … UNTIL NOW," reads a teaser for the book she posted Sunday. The audiobook will be narrated by actor Michelle Williams.

Prosecutors seeking to recharge Alec Baldwin in fatal shooting

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Special prosecutors are seeking to recharge actor Alec Baldwin in the fatal shooting of a cinematographer on the set of a Western movie in 2021, describing Tuesday their preparations to present new information to a grand jury.

New Mexico-based prosecutors Kari Morrissey and Jason Lewis said they’ll present their case to the grand jury within the next two months, noting “additional facts” have come to light in the shooting on the set of the film “Rust” that killed Halyna Hutchins.

Baldwin, a coproducer of the film, was pointing a gun at Hutchins during a rehearsal inside a rustic chapel on a movie-set ranch near Santa Fe when the gun went off on Oct. 21, 2021, killing the cinematographer and wounding director Joel Souza.

“After extensive investigation over the past several months, additional facts have come to light that we believe show Mr. Baldwin has criminal culpability in the death of Halyna Hutchins and the shooting of Joel Souza,” Morrissey and Lewis said in an email. “We believe the appropriate course of action is to permit a panel of New Mexico citizens to determine from here whether Mr. Baldwin should be held over for criminal trial.”

Long-distance couple eye future together

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been separated and divorced for two years. A year ago, I met a man through a mutual friend. He was also going through a divorce. We started communicating, fell in love and have been traveling back and forth between Ohio, where he works and lives, and New Jersey, where I am.

He wants me to quit my job and find a new one so we can make our relationship permanent in Ohio. I’m a sales support coordinator for a broker, and I have been with the company for some time. There’s no guarantee I could find a job that pays as well as this one does. He has his own business and also cares for his elderly aunt and uncle.

I want to be with him, but at my age (60), I’m hesitant to start a new job. Also, I’d be leaving my adult kids behind and would miss them dearly. It’s a dilemma because I want to be able to see my kids as often as we can, but I also love this man and want to share my life with him. How do I figure this out?

HARD DECISIONS TO MAKE

DEAR HARD DECISIONS: Your work is cut out for you. Before making any decisions, do some exploring. Would moving out of state guarantee that you would have to sacrifice your well-paying job? Many people work remotely these days, and it wouldn’t hurt to ask if it would be possible for you to do that with your current company. Are there similar job openings in the city where your gentleman friend lives?

Relocating to Ohio would not necessarily mean you would no longer see your adult children. They could visit, and the reverse is also true. Other families surmount this challenge and so could you. Give yourself some time to decide what is right for you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am divorced and have an adult son. He hasn’t been back for four or five years. His dad had a heart attack, so my son took a few days to come home. I texted to see how his dad was doing and got only short responses. My son made no attempt to see me while he was here -- not a one-hour visit or even a phone call.

I have never been so hurt. I am beyond devastated. I know it’s not about me, but I have feelings, and I feel like I don’t exist to either of them. My ex and I are both in relationships. Should I quit trying to communicate with my son? I don’t want to do this, but spin it any way you want, he didn’t want to see me. So, is it, “When a door closes, quit knocking”? I am crushed. What should I do?

STILL MOM IN CANADA

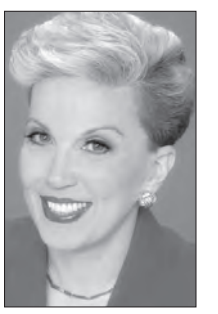
DEAR MOM: Your son’s visit was not about you. It was about his father who had suffered a heart attack and could have died. It’s entirely possible that your son had his hands full dealing with his dad and the circumstances surrounding his treatment and care. If you hadn’t seen your son in four or five years, you may not have been that close to begin with. Leave it alone. If you continue to pursue and personalize this, you will only drive your son further away.

■ ■ ■

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HERE I AM, HAPPY AND CONTENT.
...BUT NOT EUPHORIC.
SO NOW I'M NO LONGER CONTENT. I'M UNHAPPY. MY DAY IS RUINED.
I NEED TO STOP THINKING WHILE I'M AHEAD.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CLAYTON, I SEE WE'RE A VAMPIRE TODAY?
IT'S VLAD, MS. STEVENS
OKAY, VLAD. JUST SO IT WON'T BE A DISTRACTION.
I'LL TRY TO KEEP THE SCREAMS OF PAIN FROM MY UNSLAKED BLOODLUST TO A MINIMUM.
SEE, THAT'S THE KIND OF THING I'M...
OH, THE HUNGER! MY KINGDOM FOR A PINT OF O-POSITIVE!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO GO AS FOR HALLOWEEN?
THAT'S FOR KIDS. I'M TOO MATURE TO GO TRICK-OR-TREATING.
BESIDES, I PLAN TO GO EGG OUR H.O.A. PRESIDENT'S HOUSE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Shapeless mass
5 PC program
8 Swedish auto
12 Gushing review
13 Chit
14 French river
15 Topped with frosting
16 Documentarian Burns
17 Hosp. scans
18 Red wine
20 Eucalyptus eaters
22 Sashimi fish
23 Frazier foe
24 Unwanted email
27 Lattices
32 "Do — say!"
33 — polloi
34 Rock producer Brian
35 Ava Du-Vernay, for one
38 Vittles
39 Buddy
40 "2001" computer
42 Minimum
45 Draw forth
49 PTA concern
50 Vitamin stat
52 Drive- — window
53 "Meet Me — Louis"
54 Moreover
55 Dove calls
56 Stadium cheers
57 More, to Manuel
58 Toot one's horn

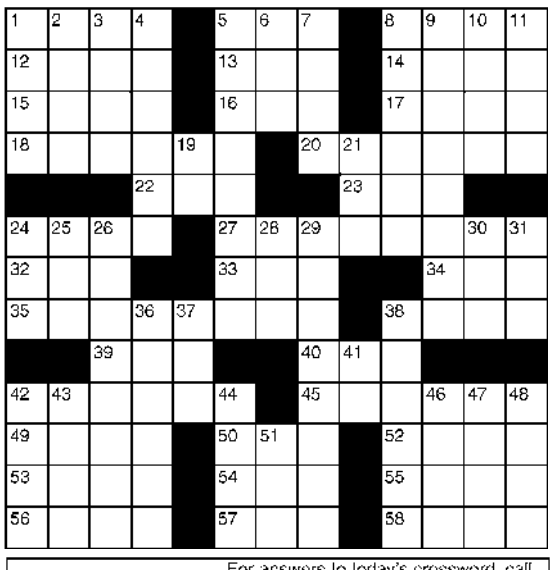
DOWN

1 Edge
2 Chantilly, e.g.
3 Done with
4 Pandemonium
5 Solid, as an alibi
6 Luau bowlful
7 Ice hockey disk
8 Mogadishu resident
9 La-Guardia arrival
10 Largest continent
11 Porgy's love
19 "Sideways" actress Sandra
21 Feedbag tidbit
24 Melancholy
25 Omega preceder
26 Touch up a photo
28 Kanga's kid
29 Fools
30 Bearded beast
31 Weep
36 Builds
37 Lettuce variety
38 Snafu
41 Pacino of "The Irishman"
42 Israel's Golda
43 Author Ferber
44 Streetcar
46 Sneeze syllable
47 Golf bag item
48 Walrus tooth
51 Genetic stuff

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	A	C	T		I	W	O		S	L	I	T
O	S	H	A		D	O	W		P	O	S	H
S	I	E	P	D	O	W	N		A	C	L	U
T	O	N	E	R			S	P	I	K	E	D
			R	E	E	L		I	N	S		
A	M	O	S		M	A	R	E		T	A	T
D	E	V		T	I	M	E	S		E	G	O
O	L	E		A	T	A	D		S	P	A	T
		R	F	D		R	O	A	M			
T	E	S	L	A	S			S	I	M	B	A
A	S	T	I		S	T	F	P	D	A	D	S
I	S	F	F		T	O	F		G	N	A	T
L	O	P	S		S	C	L		E	N	Y	A

Yesterday's answer 10-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5855**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gillian Jacobs, 41; Chris Kattan, 53; Jon Favreau, 57; John Lithgow, 78.

Happy Birthday: Take the chance and spotlight what you want and have to say. Being vocal, following through and using your attributes to make a difference will be gratifying and fruitful. Make your opportunities instead of waiting for someone to step in, take over and receive credit for something you can do yourself. The belief and trust you show in yourself will command the same from those who watch you soar. Your numbers are 4, 10, 17, 25, 31, 36, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Be persistent, get the truth and choose what's best for you. Someone will take advantage of you if you let them. Be tactful, choose your words wisely and keep your plans a secret until you can display what you have to offer. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Take command of situations as they arise. It's your turn to do your part, make a difference and reap the rewards. Attend events, mix and mingle, and listen carefully, and an interesting encounter will develop into something substantial. Personal gains, love and romance are favored. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Pace yourself. Space things out and rethink your strategy. A brainstorming session or networking event will offer perspective and help you decide what and who you can rely on to help you reach your objective. Keep emotionally manipulative people at a distance. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Understand what's possible before you enter something that involves cooperation. Be ready to put your knowledge, skills and intuition to the test. Avoid making a premature mistake. Get the facts before you integrate a suggestion into your plans. Don't make promises you cannot keep. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Let the child in you shine. Pursuing fun things will motivate you to enjoy what life has to offer. A positive attitude will lead to opportunities that feed your soul. Follow your heart, not someone else's directives. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Keep your emotions undercover. There is no need to let others see your vulnerability when you have so much to do and to offer. Set your sights on turning your thoughts into an opportunity that changes how you think and live. Romance is favored. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You can argue or bring about change. Use your wisdom to your advantage instead of letting someone get under your skin. Your time is valuable and best spent exploring something that can make your life and the world around you better. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take more interest in where your money goes. Review subscriptions, billings and purchases that aren't necessary. Revise your lifestyle to fit your income and to give you peace of mind. Pay attention to what life offers, and you'll find inexpensive alternatives. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Misleading information will lead to an emotional situation affecting how you feel and think about others. A change of attitude will give you the power to shut down any attempt someone makes to lead you astray. Focus on a benevolent path. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Say little and do a lot. Your actions will count and ensure that you attract the right kind of attention. A change at home will prompt unexpected opportunities and a chance to increase your income. Invest more time in yourself and doable prospects. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look at your budget and learn how to handle your money efficiently. Don't let an unexpected change someone makes tempt you to take on something you can't afford. Observation will help you prevent mistakes and offer insight into better financial habits. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Put some muscle behind your long-term plans, and you will find a unique way to increase your money and investments. Refuse to leave essential matters in someone else's hands. Making good decisions begins with understanding the process and taking care of matters yourself. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, compassionate and steadfast. You are persuasive and ambitious.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3			7					
	4			8		3	1	
	8	2		9		4		5
			9					4
4	1		8	6		7		
7				2			9	
						6		3
9	7		2					1
	2	3		5	6			

Difficulty: ★★★ 10/19

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	9	8	4	5	6	3	2	1
1	4	2	8	9	3	6	7	5
3	6	5	7	2	1	9	4	8
9	1	3	5	8	2	4	6	7
2	8	6	3	4	7	5	1	9
5	7	4	6	1	9	8	3	2
6	3	9	1	7	5	2	8	4
8	2	7	9	3	4	1	5	6
4	5	1	2	6	8	7	9	3

Difficulty: ★★★ 10/18

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PLAYING THE CELESTA Solution: 7 letters

C	O	I	G	N	I	S	O	P	S	N	A	R	T	M
O	R	N	O	T	E	C	I	S	U	M	C	R	E	E
M	C	S	L	E	K	I	R	T	S	O	E	T	C	C
P	H	T	E	T	R	O	F	E	V	M	A	T	H	H
O	E	R	A	T	F	O	S	E	O	L	E	D	N	A
U	S	U	D	V	A	F	R	L	L	N	S	N	I	N
N	T	M	E	N	E	L	O	O	I	O	S	A	Q	I
D	R	E	R	L	A	W	P	B	P	E	S	T	U	S
E	A	N	C	C	E	H	A	M	M	E	R	S	E	M
D	E	T	T	R	O	C	E	I	N	H	S	R	A	B
I	A	I	A	N	S	T	T	N	N	E	K	O	R	B
W	O	M	E	P	R	O	L	O	N	G	Ⓛ	Ⓛ	Ⓔ	Ⓑ
N	T	Y	P	E	N	A	U	G	U	S	T	E	P	U
M	U	S	T	E	L	C	E	N	O	N	A	I	P	L
S	E	G	N	A	R	W	O	O	D	U	O	L	U	C

© 2023 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 10/19

Action, Auguste, Bars, Bass, Bell, Broken, Cabinet, Clef, Club, Compound, Cover, Damper, Forte, Hammers, Hand, Instrument, Leader, Loud, Lower, Mechanism, Metallophone, Music, Mustel, Note, Octave, Orchestra, Piano, Plates, Prolong, Ranges, Semitone, Soft, Sound, Stand, Steel, Strike, Technique, Tempos, Transposing, Tremolo, Type, Upper, Wide, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Ponderosa

The NEW Treasuries 55 & 56 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

Schwarber homers twice, Turner goes deep, Phillies power past Arizona

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Kyle Schwarber is pounding postseason homers at such a rate that he fits right in with Mickey Mantle and Reggie Jackson.

The tattooed slugger is doing it all while powering the Philadelphia Phillies toward a chance for the franchise's first World Series championship since 2008.

"If you want to get paid, win baseball games," he said. "That goes a long way."

So do his Schwarbombs—especially in October.

Schwarber hit two of Philadelphia's three solo homers off Merrill Kelly, and the sweet-swinging Phillies pounded the Arizona Diamondbacks 10-0 on Tuesday night for a 2-0 lead in the NL Championship Series.

Trea Turner also connected and J.T. Realmuto had two hits and three RBIs as Philadelphia improved to 7-1 in the playoffs, moving closer to a second straight World Series appearance. Aaron Nola tossed three-hit ball and struck out seven in six innings.

Game 3 is Thursday at Chase Field. The Texas Rangers also hold a 2-0 lead over the Houston Astros in the ALCS headed into Wednesday's game.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Kyle Schwarber celebrates after a home run against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the sixth inning in Game 2 of the baseball NL Championship Series in Philadelphia, Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023.

"I think this is kind of the lineup that we envisioned ourselves having all season long," Realmuto said. "I just think that we're clicking at the right time right now."

It was another noisy night in Philly as Kelly was roasted after saying fans at Citizens Bank Park could not possibly be any louder than the ones he heard cheering for Team USA in the World Baseball Classic.

Not just any Classic game. The one in May when Turner hit a grand slam for the United States that lifted them into the tournament's semifinals.

"I haven't obviously heard this place on the field," Kelly said ahead of Game 1, "but I would be very surprised if it trumped that (WBC) game down in Miami."

As the kids say, challenge accepted.

Kelly, a 12-game winner this season, was voraciously booed from pregame introductions to his walk to the mound, a sort of we'll-show-you vibe from 45,412 Phillies diehards determined to shake the ballpark again in October.

How loud?

"AC/DC concert level," loud, Turner said before Game 2.

Phillies manager Rob Thomson said a rival coach told him last season that a playoff game in Philly was "four hours of hell," and Turner sent a charge through the delirious crowd when he clocked a four-seam fastball to left-center field for a 1-0 lead in the first.

"It was definitely loud," Turner said.

Kelly said his comments were taken out of context and "made into something more than it should have been."

"I knew it from the start that the energy was going to be loud," he said. "I knew these fans bring a ton of energy."

Boisterous fans are great. So is the long ball. Schwarber's homers in the third and sixth were Philadelphia's 14th and 15th homers in the last four games as the Phillies continue to mash their way through October.

Pitching, though, remains the ultimate decider.

Nola, eligible for free agency after the World Series, has only fattened the numbers for his impending contract. The longest-tenured Phillie, Nola has won all three postseason starts and struck out 19. His ERA, 0.96.

Nola tossed seven shutout innings in the Wild Card Series against Miami and struck out nine against the Braves in the NLDS. Against Corbin Carroll, Christian Walker and the Diamondbacks, Nola again was spotless.

"He's really just being unpredictable and getting ahead of guys and being able to put them away when he is ahead," Realmuto said.

The Phillies flashed their leather to keep Arizona in check. Bryce Harper made a diving stab at first to get Carroll in the third. Alec Bohm made a diving snag at third and one-hopped the throw to get Gabriel Moreno in the second.

Kelly was booed off the mound when he was lifted for Joe Mantiply in the sixth and left a runner on base. Bryson Stott singled and Realmuto followed with a two-run double. After a two-out walk, Brandon Marsh added an RBI double for a 6-0 lead.

At that point, there was no use stretching Nola, not when the Phillies could save him for a start later in the series — or possibly, his next one against a team from Texas.

"I feel like we like our chances, for sure," Nola said.

BROAD STREET BOMBERS

The Phillies have four individual multihomer games this postseason, tying the 2009 Phillies and 2002 Angels for the most by a team in a postseason.

Schwarber, who hit six for the Phillies in last season's playoffs, has 18 career in the postseason, tying him with Jackson and Mantle on the list. Only six players are ahead of him in MLB history.

Schwarber had the crowd standing in anticipation of a third homer in the seventh but he walked.

The Phillies beat the Braves 10-2 in Game 3 of the NLDS, marking the second time in franchise history (2009) they have scored 10 runs in multiple games in a single postseason.

OUT OF SORTS

The Diamondbacks are headed home all out of sorts. Stott popped one up 17 feet from the plate in the seventh that three fielders looked at and let drop for a single. He scored on a sacrifice fly for a 10-0 lead.

Arizona was limited to four hits for the second straight game while its top two starters combined to give up six homers.

"Look, we could be playing on the moon. Everybody is talking about coming into this environment, and I don't care," manager Torey Lovullo said. "We have to play better baseball. Everybody has to be better. You can start with the manager and then trickle all the way down through the entire team."

Phillies' Harper wants big leaguers to play baseball at 2028 LA Olympics

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bryce Harper wants to take a swing at the Olympics.

The Philadelphia Phillies slugger said it would be a dream to play for Team USA when baseball returns for the 2028 Los Angeles Games. Harper, who turned 31 on Monday, has long been an advocate of Major League Baseball taking a break during the season to let major leaguers play in the Olympics.

Harper said his wife texted him a happy birthday message attached to news about baseball's return.

"You talk about growing the game, and that's the way you grow it at the highest peak," Harper said. "You let guys that are playing in the league take that break just like in the NHL and see what happens. I think it would be really cool. I think it would be a lot of fun. I don't know if they'll ever go for it, but I would love to put USA on my chest and represent it at the highest level."

Baseball became an official Olympic sport in 1992 and was initially open only to amateur players. Pros were later permitted, but MLB hasn't let active big leaguers participate. The Olympics scrapped baseball after the 2008 Games, although it was brought back for the 2020 Tokyo Games in baseball-mad Japan. Baseball and softball were left off the Paris 2024 slate.

Harper, a two-time NL MVP, was batting .368 with three homers for the Phillies in the postseason. Harper spoke ahead of Game 1 of the NL Championship Series against Arizona.

AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Bryce Harper practices before the baseball NL Championship Series against the Arizona Diamondbacks, Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, in Philadelphia. The Phillies host Game 1 on Monday, Oct. 16.

Harper signed a 13-year, $330 million contract with the Phillies ahead of the 2019 season. He would be 10 years into the contract and 35 years old, should he get the chance to play for Team USA in LA.

"I will be old at that point, so I don't know if they're going to want me to be on the team, but it's always a dream," Harper said. "I mean, I think it's everybody's dream to be in the Olympics."

Harper had hoped to play for Team USA in spring training at the World Baseball Classic but was recovering from offseason elbow surgery. The WBC is operated by MLB and takes place during spring training, meaning players do not need to miss regular season games to participate.

The NHL used to pause its regular season to allow players to skate in the Winter Games, but that ended for the 2018 Pyeongchang Games.

Cricket, flag football, softball, lacrosse and squash also were confirmed Monday by the International Olympic Committee to be held at the Los Angeles Games.

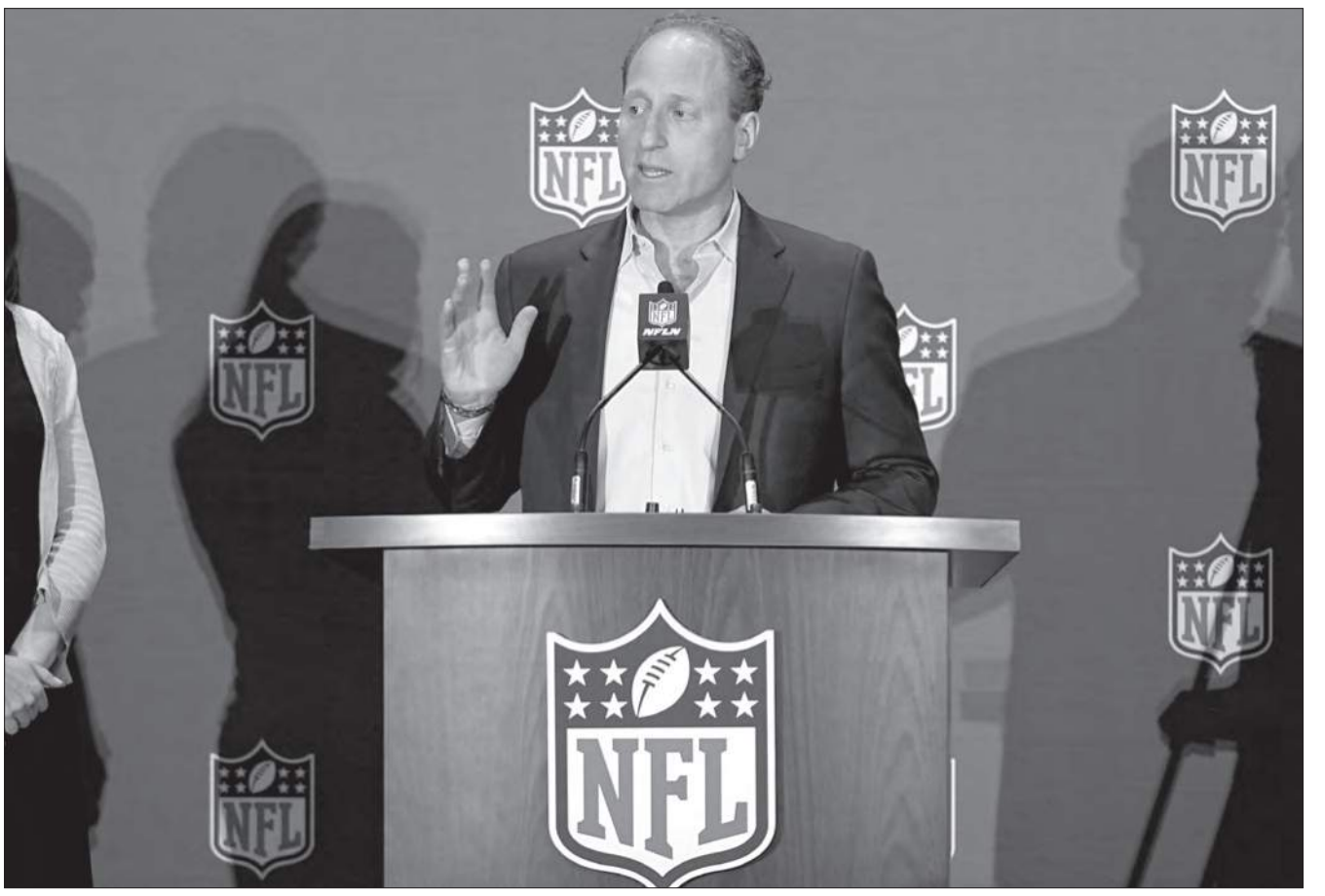
The slate of sports cleared a final hurdle from the Olympic body's full membership at a meeting in Mumbai, India, after being proposed by Los Angeles officials one week ago. The slate was recommended by the IOC executive board on Friday.

Phillies manager Rob Thomson, raised in Corunna, Ontario, was part of the Canadian squad that competed in the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles when baseball was a demonstration sport.

"I think it should be in the Olympics," he said. "My experience was I come from a town of 2,000 people, and I had never played in front of more than 500 people in my life. Our first game was against Venezuela in Dodger Stadium, and there was 45,000 people in the stadium, and I don't even remember the first inning, to tell you the truth. I was just as nervous as you could get.

NFL considers eliminating hip-drop tackles

» Will review 'tush push' again after season



AP

Jeff Miller, NFL Executive Vice President, Communications, Public Affairs and Policy, speaks during a news conference at the NFL football meetings, Monday, March 27, 2023, in Phoenix.

NEW YORK (AP)—The NFL is looking to eliminate the hip-drop tackle and will again discuss the "tush push" in the offseason.

League executive Jeff Miller said Tuesday the hip-drop tackle increases risk of injury by 25 times the rate of a standard tackle.

Seahawks quarterback Geno Smith briefly left a game against the Giants in Week 4 after getting hurt by a hip-drop tackle.

"It is an unforgiving behavior and one that we need to try to define and get out of the game," Miller said at the league meetings. "To quantify it for you, we see an injury more or less every week in the regular season on the hip-drop."

The league made the horse-collar tackle illegal several years ago because a defender's body weight ends up on the legs of the ball carrier, enhancing risk of injury. Rich McKay, the chairman of the NFL's competition committee, called the hip-drop tackle a "cousin" of the horse collar.

"What's happening on the hip-drop is the defender is encircling tackling the runner and then swinging their weight and falling on the side of their leg, which is their ankle or their knee," McKay said.

"When they use that tactic, you can see why they do, because it can be a smaller man against a bigger man and they're trying to get that person down because that's the object of the game. But when they do it, the runner becomes defenseless. They can't kick their way out from under. And that's the problem. That's where the injury occurs. You see the ankle get trapped underneath the weight of the defender."

The league is gathering data and conducting a study on the hip-drop to make a determination. McKay understands defensive players won't be happy if another way to tackle is banned.

"Whether it's a tactic that's being used or a technique, it's creating an unreasonable risk of injury to a player," McKay said. "It's our job to try to find a way to regulate that."

As for the "tush push"—the quarterback sneak the Philadelphia Eagles have used so successfully—the play has been legal in the NFL since 2005 when the league removed the language in the rule book that prohibited pushing offensive players.

No team has taken advantage of it quite like the Eagles under coach Nick Sirianni and QB Jalen Hurts. In short-yardage situations, Hurts gets an assist when two or three players line up in the backfield and push him across the first-down marker.

There was a discussion about potentially banning the play after last season, but the NFL's competition committee didn't come up with a rule to be put to a vote that would prohibit it.

"There'll be more data, whether there's injuries or not, there will be success rates, there will be teams that will have an opinion," McKay said, noting it takes 24 votes to push a new rule.

"Last year, we did talk about it a lot. There were enough teams to say it's one year, let's see it and leave it alone. So we did, and I'm sure it'll be back again. But I just don't want to get in the business of predicting because I really don't know what the outcome will be. I do know it will be talked about."

COACHING INTERVIEWS DELAYED

Owners voted to push in-person head coaching interviews back one more week until after all divisional playoff games have been completed. The goal is to slow down the hiring process and increase diverse hiring.

The timeline for virtual interviews remains the same and interviews may take place earlier for internal candidates or those not working for a club or within the NFL.

"The data shows when you have a more intentional process, you end up with more diverse results," NFL executive Dasha Smith said. "So that is really the goal here is to ultimately have a more inclusive and diverse, head coach, GM, senior leadership across the entire NFL but in particular we've been focusing on the head coach position."

INTERNATIONAL GAMES

NFL executive Peter O'Reilly said the league continues to evaluate the possibility of playing an international game in Spain or Brazil next season instead of Mexico, where the stadium is undergoing renovations and won't be available for the second straight year.

"The reason we're looking at Brazil and Spain is based on the size of the fan base and their market," O'Reilly said.

There's no timeline for a decision on a fourth international game for 2024—two games will be played in London and one in Germany—but O'Reilly said he expects an announcement in December or January.

Regarding a Super Bowl in London, O'Reilly said: "That is not a near-term focus of ours."

CONCUSSIONS REDUCED

The NFL says it experienced a seven-year low in training camp concussions because of the use of the Guardian caps. Among players at the positions—offensive line, defensive line, tight ends, running backs, linebackers—who wore the protective head gear over their helmet, concussions were reduced by 46% over their three-year average. For positions who didn't wear them, concussions increased by 50%.

"There really is a substantial benefit," Miller said. "There certainly will be an active discussion about next steps with that as we move forward."

Dr. Allen Sills, the NFL's chief medical officer, said the next step would be to expand usage of Guardian cap to players at other positions.

"Where we think this is going is not about the Guardian cap, per se, but about the better design of helmet," Sills said. "What can we learn from what the Guardian cap has taught us and incorporate that into the design of the helmet. We're already seeing that innovation take place. We're seeing those conversations take place. We're also seeing some additional types of helmet add-ons that are being developed. So I think you're going to see this be an area for innovation over the next couple of seasons based on what we're learning so far."

Tyreek Hill, other NFL stars might get an opportunity to play flag football in the 2028 Olympics

AP

Peter O'Reilly, NFL Executive Vice President, Club Business, Major Events and International announces that flag football will officially join the LA28 sports program, as voted by IOC members, during a news conference in New York Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023.

NEW YORK (AP)—If Tyreek Hill and other NFL players want to switch to flag football for a summer and compete in the Olympics, the possibility is becoming more real.

NFL executive Peter O'Reilly said Tuesday the league will work with the players' union on allowing current and former players to participate after flag football was among five sports officially added to the 2028 Los Angeles Games by the International Olympic Committee.

"It is the pinnacle of sport globally," O'Reilly said at the league meetings. "Ultimately, that decision on the makeup of Team USA is a decision of USA Football and the national governing body or the governing bodies around the world in similar roles because we are thinking about Team USA, but there are also a lot of other passports in the NFL—113 foreign-born players on NFL rosters as of Week 5.

"So, that opportunity for athletes to represent their countries, we understand the desire, what they have spoken out about and what we will continue to do is work with the players, (NFL) Players Association and the clubs in the time ahead to determine the process and then work with USA Football and IFAF on that."

Hill, the Miami Dolphins' All-Pro wide receiver, expressed his interest after the official announcement, asking fellow NFL players to "bring one home" in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter.

"You know how amazing it would be to assemble a super team to play in the Olympics," Hill later said on his podcast.

The NFL has worked hard to promote flag football and pushed for its inclusion in the Olympics. Last year, the league turned its annual Pro Bowl into a weeklong series of competitions culminating with the AFC-NFC all-stars playing flag football.

"We're committed to growing flag football around the world," O'Reilly said. "The Olympic decision accelerates that. We do see it as a long-term commitment as we move forward. And it's not just about 2028 and that July, it's about the next four years and how we, our clubs, IFAF take advantage of that opportunity to really grow this game, allow more girls and boys around the world to get a ball in their hands, get a flag belt on, and grow what we're doing."

Denver Nuggets become the pursued around league

DENVER (AP)—Nikola Jokic and the Denver Nuggets will raise their championship banner on opening night—with LeBron James in the building to witness, no less. The players will also receive their rings.

After that, no more mention of last season's run that produced the franchise's first NBA title. No more "remember-when" moments, either.

They have bigger things on their mind. Big picture: Milwaukee, Boston, Los Angeles Lakers, Phoenix and Golden State, who are among the favorites to challenge for their crown. Closer to home: A Northwest Division that features three teams going through some version of a roster revisions (Oklahoma City, Utah and Portland) and another trying to take that next step forward (that's you, Minnesota).

It's a division that boasts an All-NBA first-team pick (Shai Gilgeous-Alexander), rising stars (Lauri Markkanen, Anthony Edwards) and new kids ready to bust out (Chet Holmgren, Scoot Henderson).

Of course, Jokic and the defending champs reside there, too. Although the Nuggets lost the experience of Bruce Brown (signed with Indiana), they still have the combination of Jokic, the finals MVP, and Jamal Murray, a playoff maestro who's searching for his first All-Star nod.

"This is a new season, new group," said coach Michael Malone, whose team opens on Oct. 24 by hosting James and the Lakers. "We have to hone in on that challenge and not live in the past, because no one cares what you did last year."

For decades upon decades, Denver has been a team chasing a champion. Now, the Nuggets are the ones being chased. They went 16-4 in the playoffs—including a sweep of the Lakers—and finished things off by closing out Miami to start a summer of celebrations.

"I have a lot of respect for them," Thunder general manager Sam Presti said. "Murray and Jokic are committed to winning with the Nuggets. The organization is committed to those guys. They have just kept at it. ... They're all in on winning together."

But this is a determined division:

■ Edwards, Rudy Gobert and Karl-Anthony Towns are ready to take the Timberwolves to the next level.

■ Holmgren returns for the Thunder after missing last season with a foot injury, which gives Gilgeous-Alexander another scoring threat.

■ The Jazz have a youthful mix with Taylor Hendricks and Keyonte George to complement Markkanen.

■ The Blazers give the keys to the offense to Henderson after trading Damian Lillard to the Milwaukee Bucks.

"If a fighter goes into fight, and he's not ready to fight, he's going to get knocked out," Murray said. "You've always got to be the hunter."

A look at each team in the Northwest Division in predicted order of finish:

DENVER NUGGETS

Gone is Brown, their versatile sixth man. But they still have "Joker," who added finals MVP to a resume that already included two NBA MVP awards. His offseason included a return home to Sombor, Serbia, where he spent time with family and doted over his race horses. Now, he's focused on transforming back into being a triple-double machine. The Nuggets didn't make many offseason moves, preferring to ride with one of the league's top lineups—Kentavious Caldwell-Pope, Aaron Gordon, Jokic, Murray and Michael Porter Jr.

AP

Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic waits for play to resume in the first half of a preseason NBA basketball game against the Chicago Bulls on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, in Denver.

MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES

Edwards, the first overall pick in the 2020 draft, has become the clear top dog for the Timberwolves. Part of the next wave of potential superstars in the NBA to receive maximum contract extensions during the offseason, Edwards will be trying to build off a strong summer performance with the U.S. national team and forge a stronger pick-and-roll connection with Gobert. After losing Towns for the bulk of the season to a strained calf muscle, Minnesota is running it back with the two big men complementing Edwards on almost entirely the same roster as last season. Forward Jaden McDaniels, who missed the first-round series loss to the Nuggets with a broken hand, will be counted on to advance his production after establishing himself as the team's ace defender.

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER

Gilgeous-Alexander leads a talented young core that is worth watching after the Thunder reached the Play-In Tournament last season. Gilgeous-Alexander was a first-team All-NBA selection last season after averaging 31.4 points per game. Josh Giddey, Oklahoma City's No. 2 scorer last season, is back after averaging 19.4 points for Australia at the World Cup. Jalen Williams was runner-up for rookie of the year last season and Lu Dort returns as the team's defensive stopper. Now, Oklahoma City adds Holmgren, the No. 2 pick in the 2022 NBA draft. The versatile 7-foot-1 forward/center missed last season with a foot injury. This team has an extremely high ceiling.

UTAH JAZZ

The Jazz drafted three young players in the first round over the summer—Taylor Hendricks (No. 9), Keyonte George (No. 16) and Brice Sensabaugh (No. 28). They have a young coach in Will Hardy who's trying to mesh it all together. George is playing his way into the starting lineup, especially after stellar performances in Salt Lake City and Las Vegas during summer league action. The Jazz march to the beat of Markkanen, who's coming off a season in which he averaged 25.6 points and 8.6 rebounds. The 7-footer from Finland made his first All-Star team.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS

For the first time in a dozen years, there's no "Dame Time" in Portland. The longtime face of the franchise was shipped out as part of a three-team trade that included the Bucks and Phoenix Suns. One of returns for the Blazers was Deandre Ayton. The athletic big man figures to keep up with the pace set by Henderson, who was the third overall pick in the draft. Coach Chauncey Billups insisted the Blazers in this post-Lillard era will be more of a group effort. Ayton and Henderson also team with Anfernee Simons, who's coming off a season in which he averaged a career-best 21.1 points.

4

From page 20

sion; Manglona is 12 years old in the Teen 1 (116 lbs) division.

Even with a smaller team this time around, Trench Tech founder Alvarez said it is a "strong team…the kids have all been preparing for six months."

Alvarez said first-timers Almada and Choi are "very excited and eager to perform and showcase the techniques they have been learning." Almada won gold in the Kids 2 division, while Choi won gold in the Pee-wee 1 division of the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Fundraising Tournament last Oct. 7 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mitchell won gold in the Absolute division of the fundraising tourney and Manglona won silver in the Kids 1 division. As for the tournament in Guam last Spring, both Mitchell and Manglona were silver medalists in their respective divisions.

As to why only four kids are competing, Alvarez said "most kids really wanted to go, but a lot of the parents had work obligations and scheduled events/trips on the same weekend."

Alvarez also congratulated all competitors of the fundraising tournament and said all of them received competitor certificates of appreciation.

LAO ZHANG

Sophia Choi, facing camera, is competing in the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Tournament Fall 2023 at the University

LAO ZHANG

Trey Manglona, on mat, in action during the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Tournament Fall 2023 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse this Saturday.

HER

From page 20

skills development.

With that, Rangamar said this program aligns with NMIBF's goals.

"The whole objective of this program is to get girls in an environment that's comfortable for them to come out and play. People think that basketball is a sport typically male dominated. So, what this is, is really focused on bringing girls out regardless of skill level—they come out here, they make new friends with a lot of girls from different schools."

On Day 1 at the Ada Gym, Rangamar said the girls participated in a lot of games, fundamental drills, got the girls acquainted, had icebreakers, then set the ground rules. On Day 2 at the ACS Gym, Rangamar said they all participated in a 3x3 festival in which they were taught the rules of it.

There were also guest presenters from Marianas High School's Sources of Strength group and Public School System Mental Health.

Erica Zandueta, a freshman from Marianas High School who participated in the program with her sister Rhodalyn, said that "the experience was fun. We got to know each other. I knew some of them from the TSL Summer Sports Camp, and we had so much competition but we had fun for the most part." Zandueta said her favorite part of the program was the 3x3 tournament where she was teammates with other girls she's never played with before.

Rangamar said the turnout for both days' events "was a really good turnout. We're very thankful that we were able to have this event post-typhoon. We couldn't have done it without everybody that's here, my team and the parents that brought their kids over."

LEIGH GASES

Participants of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation Her World Her Rules program pose for a photo after its completion last Saturday at the Agape Christian School Gymnasium.

IGUEL

From page 20

five each; and eight others are tied with four.

Jon Norita has the most triples with 4; Larson Sibetang has three; and Troy Laniyo, Ben Leon Guerrero, Rollins Skang, and Welson have two each.

The home run king was Byron Kaipat with 19; Ze Lifoifoi came in a close second with 18; Nate Camacho hit 15; J.D. Dikito had 14; and three others were tied with 13 each.

Lifoifoi hit the most RBIs with 41; second was Tony Salas; Kaipat and Camacho hit 34 each; and Angailen drove in 32.

The most runs were made by Kaipat at 32; Tony Salas was a close second with 31; Leon Guerrero had 29; and Poland Masaharu and Cam Towai hit in 27 each.

At the end of the regular season, the team standings were as follows: Aimeliik Bat Boys clinched the pennant with a 12-1 record; Just 4 Fun was right behind with also a 12-1 record; No Excuse made up the top three with 11-2; Kebruka and Mamaaw was at 9-4 each; PayDayHao was at 7-5; Blue Jays and Saipal were both 6-7; Team Mac, Dat's It, Ready Mix, and TuTuRamZ shared a 4-9 record; and No Choice and Seaweed Vibes only won one game apiece and lost 12.

Schwarber homers twice, Turner goes deep, Phillies power past Arizona.

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Denver Nuggets become the pursued around league.

PAGE 19

4 Trench Tech martial artists to compete in Guam

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Some competitors of the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Fundraising Tournament last Oct. 7 pose for a photo with their participation certificate. Trey Manglona, seated middle row, second from left, Mateo Almada, standing third from left, and Sophia Choi, seated front row, second from right, and Gabriel Mitchell (not pictured) are competing in the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Tournament at the University of Guam Fieldhouse this Saturday, Oct. 21.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only four Trench Tech Purebred Saipan martial artists will be competing in the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Tournament Fall 2023 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse this Saturday.

They are Gabriel Mitchell, Trey "King Koa" Manglona, and first-time competitors Mateo "El Guapo" Almada and Sophia Choi. Joining them are coaches Ken Tanzawa and Justis "Cuki" Alvarez.

Mitchell is 13 years old in the Teen Gi/Teen No-Gi No Max weight division; Almada is 10 years old in the Junior Gi/Junior 2 No Max (111 lbs) division; Choi is 7 years old in the 62-lb divi-

See 4 on Page 19

LEIGH GASES

Gabriel Mitchell, top, is competing in the Påtgon (Kids) Jiu-Jitsu Tournament Fall 2023 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse this Saturday.

Iguel, Hideo are pitching leaders in softball

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The regular season of the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association Slow Pitch Open League ended, and as of Oct. 8, Luis Iguel and Dominic Hideo took the pitching titles, while the batting leaders were Kimo Angailen and Tony Salas.

Iguel of No. 1 seed Aimeliik Bat Boys sported a perfect six-game win record, a 7.411 ERA, 34 innings pitched, and 36 earned runs. Kebruka's Mario Salas came in second with a 7.424 ERA, 5-1 record, 33 innings pitched, and 35 earned runs. Third was Mamaaw's Giovanni Mira with a 7.737 ERA, 7-0 record, 38 innings pitched, and 42 earned runs.

Meanwhile, Hideo of Saipal was the strikeout king once again with 31. Second to him is Jon Welson with 27; Jeff Isaac has 26; and J.P. Lizama racked up 21.

The batting leaders of the season were No Excuse' Angailen and Just 4 Fun's Salas. They both share a .789 batting average from 30 hits of 38 at-bats.

Other batting leaders were Mario Salas with the most doubles at seven; Angailen, Mira, and Ze Lifoifoi have

See IGUEL on Page 19

LEIGH GASES

Saipal's Dominic Hideo is the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association Slow Pitch Open League strikeout king with 31.

Her World, Her Rules basketball event draws about 30 girls

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation Her World Her Rules program pose for a photo with NMIBF board member Lia Rangamar, right, last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

About 30 young girls aged 10-15 years old participated in the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's edition of the Her World Her Rules basketball program last Friday and Saturday.

Seven-year-old Emma Lee was the youngest amongst the participants and hooped it up during the clinic and 3x3 festival at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and the Agape Christian School Gymnasium under the guidance and coaching of NMIBF board member Lia Rangamar along with other coaches.

The program, one of FIBA's most recognized initiatives in women's basketball and a unique project aimed at promoting women's and girls' basketball across the globe, helps develop positive character, discover new friendships, and encourage

See HER on Page 19